



A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy,
Adapted to the wants of the people of the Mississippi Valley.

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No. 2.

The Valley Farmer.

Railroads.

Our State Legislature has entered largely into the railroad business—loaning its credit to several companies, and granting all the charters asked for. We have not attempted to keep the run of all the roads projected or commenced. It would occupy too much of our space to do justice to them. They are all important and in the eyes of their respective friends, each is paramount. The influence of these roads will be to add largely to the value of the property of the State; to stimulate commerce; and to render productive large bodies of land hitherto worthless for any available benefit. We see that our Pacific Railroad company is looking to the construction of the road to the Pacific, and we do not see why it should not undertake it. The road must be built, and though now it seems a mighty undertaking, yet it is nothing compared with what has been done during the last ten years, not, to be sure by one company, but by several: and the roads now in construction and under contract in our sister State of Illinois amount to more miles than a road from hence to the Pacific Ocean.

The cause of Idiocy.—Dr Howe has examined almost the entire number of cases of Idiocy known in Massachusetts, and the result is, in all but four instances, he found the parents of these idiots were either intemperate, addicted to sensual vices, scrofulous, predisposed to insanity, or had intermarried with blood relations.

THE MILK TRADE OF NEW YORK AND VICINITY, giving an account of the sale of pure and unadulterated milk—The Daily and Yearly Consumption—The Amount of Property Invested in the Business—The Milk Dealers of Orange and other Counties—Injurious effects of Impure Milk on Children—Advice to Country Dairyman. By JOHN MULLALLY, with an Introduction by R. T. TRALL, M. D., New York:—FOWLERS & WELLS.

Mr. MULLALLY has given in the little work before us, a fair, faithful and impartial view of the whole milk trade in this city—its uses as well as its abuses. He exposes the horrible system of distillery milk manufactures—the process of making sweet cream out of distillery milk, hogs or calves brains, molasses and chalk—and sketches with a vivid and powerful pen the multitude evils that arise from the infamous traffic. He gives us a description of a Swill Milk Establishment and its internal economy, as well as the disgusting practices and brutality of those employed in them—a description almost enough to make the reader forswear the use of milk in the city forever. The exposure of the work are positively shocking. We knew that abominable, disgusting frauds were practiced by the milk dealers of the city, but really, we were not prepared for such an exhibition of human depravity and cupidity as is here bared to our view. Mr. MULLALLY is entitled to the thanks of the community for his efforts to assist in lessening the evils of the milk trade, and his little book should be in the hands of every mother, every head of a family, that parents may see what it is they feed to their children under the name of Milk. The book is handsomely gotten up, and may be sent by mail to any part of the country.—N. Y. Courier.

□ The publishers of the above work will accept our thanks for the copy of the above work which they sent to us.

Farm Work for February.

'At Candlemas day,
Have half your grain and half your hay.'

This is an old proverb, which we used to hear in the days of our boyhood in connection with another:

'If Candlemas day be warm and clear,
The strength of winter is yet to appear.'

Well, this is Candlemas morning. A cold rainy, disagreeable morning, following on in the footsteps of two weeks of as lovely weather as ever was seen in any climate in the month January—almost making us believe we were in the height of Indian Summer, instead of the middle of the reign of the Winter King. But such beautiful weather could not last, and the warm Southerly wind of last night is this morning changed to a cold 'Norwester,' with rain, and all the indications that betoken another 'cold snap.' If there be, therefore any truth in signs as connected with this day, we may expect an early spring, and if so, it is quite likely that your stock will not need as the first proverb expresses it, 'half the winter's fodder, but for two months or more they will need most careful attention, particularly your breeding animals. Let them all be comfortably provided for—having warm and dry sleeping places for them all. It is wonderful what a less amount of food it takes to keep an animal in warm place, than it does in a cold one. It makes nearly or quite as much difference as the difference in the amount of fuel required to keep a snug plastered room, and one full of holes and cracks warm. We visited a farmer last fall who kept his seven or eight horses in a stable made as tight all about the sides as any house. After the stable was weather-boarded, he nailed thin plank or boards on to the inner side of the studding and then filled up the vacancy between these plank and the weather-boarding with dry earth or saw dust. Openings were constructed on the sides, close up to the eaves for ventilation, which were closed with hanging shutters worked with cords. The object was to have no draft of air directly on the horses. The owner kept an exact account of all his horses ate, and he told us that two-thirds the quantity of food required to keep his horses in an ordinary open stable was an ample supply in this, and his horses were in a better condition than

they ever were till he fixed his stable in the manner described.

We complain of our poor stock in this western valley—and much of it is poor enough; and we firmly believe a very considerable portion of its inferiority is owing to the manner in which the young animals and breeders are treated, or rather neglected. Can you expect that a colt which is compelled to weather every wintry storm without a shelter for protection, and to pick up a precarious living out of the leavings in the cattle yard, or by ranging over the fields where grew your crop of corn last season; his only drink coming from the filthy pool; never knowing what it is to have a warm bed; his tail and mane filled and tangled with cockle-burs never being combed—can you expect that such a colt will make any thing else but an indifferent horse. As well might you turn your son into the streets of our wicked city, and let him associate with all the vile and abandoned wretches that throng its highways or lurk through its alleys, or congregate in its dark recesses, without restraint, and without instruction, and expect him to grow up to a high minded, virtuous, intelligent man, as to suppose that you can have any thing but an inferior animal, when you do not pay proper attention to his physical development. The man who turns out his old horse that is past service to starve and die in the road or on the common, can plead economy, for his course, although it is alike destitute of humanity and gratitude to a faithful servant, but the man who turns out his colts and young cattle to

'Eat the short grass that grows against the wall,' is alike destitute of sense and feeling.

During this month your stock need more careful attention than during any other of the whole twelve. If your working cattle and horses now get thin and weak, they will be unfit for the spring work, which must soon be commenced. And the animals with young—see that they are provided with good food and plenty of it; with warm bedding, and are not worried or teased by vicious animals yarded with them. The food for such animals should be nutritious rather than hearty, and as the period of parturition approaches, they should be sheltered with additional care. For these,

or four weeks before they bring forth, their food should be of such a nature as will impart strength to them and their offspring, and at the same time promote the secretion of milk. Brewers' grains or wheat bran from the mills where they can be obtained, are among the best and cheapest articles that can be used.— They may be fed to cows at the rate of a peck for each cow per day, before calving, and a half a bushel per day afterwards. Sheep may be fed from one quart to three quarts per day. When these articles can not be had, a little corn or oats for sheep, and for cows, corn meal, at the rate of from two to four quarts each per day, will be beneficial. A few carrots, will greatly favor the secretion of milk, both in cows and sheep, and may be given with advantage in addition to the corn or meal.

Now is the time to prepare the ground for your garden. No farmer will be without a garden—not a truck patch, where he raises a few potatoes and cabbages—but a neat, well ordered and well cultivated garden. It will be found the most profitable acre on the farm, and will give you luxuries and comforts that money cannot buy.

Your fences should now be attended to; and this puts us in mind of saying a few words about fences generally. The very worst economy that was ever practiced by the very poorest farmer that ever put his plow two inches below the surface of the earth was to have poor fences. We have seen men half enclose 80 acres with scarce rails enough for 40, and then leave half of it entirely uncultivated, and the other half not more than half cultivated and then half of what they did raise destroyed by the cattle stepping over his five rail fence and eating it up. No field should be without something equivalent to a good substantial rail fence, eight rails high, with stake and rider, and he who cannot enclose all his farm in this way had better let part of it lay open. Any other course will be but 'gaining at the spigot to loose at the bung!' Your young hedge may now be cut back to its proper proportions; your old fences repaired, and new ones constructed.

If you have not finished getting up your year's supply of wood take our advice, and do

it without delay. This is a matter in which every head of a family should feel a deep and absorbing interest. We wish that every farmer could consider himself morally bound to have a pile in his yard during this month, which will be sufficient to last him during the entire year; therefore let all push ahead and accomplish the desirable task.

Give one more look to the tools which will be needed when you commence work for the season. See that every thing is in perfect order; and remember that it is miserable policy to use poor tools. If there is anything more foolish than the custom of some farmers in using ill-shapen, badly-constructed and dull tools, unless it be another custom of depending upon one's neighbors, for the implements needed almost daily upon the farm, we do not know what it is. Resolve, then, to have the best tools, and keep them in complete order. If an axe or chisel or saw gets dull, have it sharpened immediately, and not wait until you want it again, for two to one you will then be in a great hurry.

Western Agriculture.

There is a species of what we consider bad farming, which, though not confined to the West finds many representatives here; and what is rather peculiar about it is those who practice it often consider themselves first rate farmers—model farmers. They fail to be good farmers, not because they lack energy, or industry, or a kind of intelligence; but because their energy, their industry or their intelligence fails to secure for them the great ends of life. They may be, often are, money getters, have large farms, fat cattle, sleek horses, and big houses; they are looked up to, as 'men well do in the world,' and are often spoken of as very successful farmers. They are often elevated to office by their fellow citizens, and frequently possess great influence in whatever party they attach themselves to; and for all that, we say that they come far short of being good farmers. Perhaps we cannot better make ourself understood, than by giving a little account of a visit which we made to the house of such a man some time since. We would remark at the commencement, that the gentleman alluded to is, and has been for

some time, dead, so that none of our sensitive readers, whose houses we may have visited, need think we mean them. We shall divulge nothing of what we may have seen, it, indeed, we have seen *anything* out of the way in the management of any of the kind friends whose generous hospitality we have shared.

It was a pleasant afternoon in the latter part of summer that we mounted our horses to ride three or four miles to pay a long promised visit to a gentleman, who for sake of distinctness we will call Mr. Smith—John Smith, Esq., Representative of the county in the Legislature, and supposed to have some aspirations to a seat in Congress. In the prosecution of our duties as a public journalist we had often met him in town, and knew him well not only as an influential politician, but as claiming to be one of the first farmers in the county. His farm consisted of some six hundred acres of excellent and, lying along the banks of the beautiful river, and extending back on to the open prairie so as to form every variety of soil—bottom, timber, and prairie; and it was all his—all paid for by himself. He was the architect of his fortune, the improver of his farm—a self made man! ‘And yet do you say that he was not a good farmer, when he had achieved such results?’ Wait a little, and you shall see.

Mr. Smith’s house stood on an elevation overlooking the road, and some forty or fifty rods from it. It was approached through a hog pasture. The house was a large two story brick dwelling, nearly new and well finished, and as we dismounted at the door, our friend in his slippers and morning gown came out to receive us, and giving us a hearty welcome, ushered us into the house and introduced us to Madam. A glance about us showed the strangest medley of wisdom and foolishness, extravagance and parsimony we ever saw. Acting upon the idea that a fine house required fine furniture, many costly articles had been purchased which were disposed about the house without the least regard to order or taste. In one room was a pile of wheat sacks reposing on a three-ply carpet, while near it a side-saddle reposed comfortably on a sofa. In another the secretary and book-case stood familiarly by the side of the flour barrel, and de-

oidedly the pleasantest room in the house contained a bed, a set of carriage harness, three-bunches of herbs, and half a dozen fleeces of wool. Nor were the arrangements outside in any better keeping. A lot of ground had been appropriated to a garden, and a regular gardener had been employed to put it in order; but since had left it but little had been done to it. Mr. S. ‘did not have time’ to look after such things, his wife did not care much about flowers, the boys were away at school, and when they were at home they did not like to work in the garden, and the girls had too much to do. The beautiful picket fence around the house and garden which Mr. S. described to us so finely, had not yet been built, neither had the well been dug, but the spring was only little over an eighth of a mile off. In short every thing seemed to display a *lack* of comfort, and order, and neatness, and too plainly showed that the man’s heart was interested in some thing else than the comfort and happiness of his family. The man was rich; had worked hard, and had made his sons work hard but had failed to make them fond of home and the farmer’s life, and as fast as they became old enough they had left home for the office of the doctor or lawyer, or the counter of the merchant; and here he lived apparently without the idea that he had around him all the requisites for the highest and purest enjoyments our nature is capable of, with less comfort than is to be found in many a habitation of much meaner pretensions.

We were summoned to a supper of the everlasting description, fried bacon, putty biscuit, and black coffee, and while discussing it the heavens became over-shadowed and a heavy shower setting in prevented our return home that night. As the evening passed away we had leisure to draw our inferences in regard to the family and the reason why they were not as happy as they might have been, and where the failure to be so originated. And we resolved into this: The farmer did not magnify his calling. Instead of making his farm and home the centre of all his aspirations, and the inmates of that home as more than all the rest of the world, he seemed to look at his farm as only a means of getting money, his home as only an abiding place, and his wife and child-

ren as dependents, who if he clothed and fed them had no further claim upon his care, attention, or sympathies. To think of cultivating a refined taste and fondness for rural scenes and domestic virtues was out of the question; and so, although he tried hard to be in 'style,' he failed in this simply because he lacked that appreciation of the beautiful and proper which is a requisite to preserve the general fitness of things.

How different the condition of things in a family where in union of heart and sympathy all labor for the happiness of all; where order and neatness pervade every department, and the dwelling, however humble, with all its appliances—the garden, the orchard, and the farm, are looked upon not merely as things whereby to live, but as the means and ends of enjoyment; where intelligence and virtue shine in every countenance, where the enquiring mind of youth is not coldly repulsed in its search after wisdom; and its ambitious yearnings after improvement are not dampened by the cold reply that it will cost *too much*. We have known families, where from the child old enough to hold a pet chicken in its apron up to the grey headed grand parent all felt that they were living to some purpose; that they all had an interest in what was being done, and that by gradual labor and study, and care, they were adding day by day, and year by year, to their stock of knowledge, happiness and love—as well as accumulating wealth. Such a home will not be deserted by its inmates as they grow up to man's estate. Home will have too many charms for that; while those, who like our friend Smith, neglect to cultivate the hearts, intellects, and tastes of their children, will find, like him, that their children will have no taste for farming.

Two Nurserymen.

By the same mail we received the two following letters, which we publish by way of contrast. In regard to the first one we will say, that we found the name among the list of subscribers to the *Iowa Farmer's Advocate*, when it came into our possession, and we gave notice then, and have repeated the notice since frequently, that those who did not wish to receive the *Farmer*, should notify us of the

fact that we might strike the name off the list. Well, the *Valley Farmer* has been sent to this man *regularly* for four years,—we say *regularly*, because with two or three exceptions we have mailed it ourself, and know it has been sent *regularly*,—and now, after receiving the paper for four years he would repudiate one half the debt. He is welcome to the two dollars. In regard to Messrs. Overman's paper, we will state that we sent it at the suggestion of Mr. T. Walker, then living at Canton, who said that he presumed those gentlemen would like to receive it. We will also remark here that most of the complaints of irregularity in the reception of the paper, come from those who don't want to pay for it.

KNOXVILLE, KNOX CO., ILL., Jan. 29, 1853

GENTLEMEN:—I have recently received a Bill from you for four years subscription to the *Valley Farmer*. It is true that I have received some numbers of the *Valley Farmer* occasionally which I supposed to be sent to me by a brother Nurseryman of St. Louis, but which I had no idea of becoming a subscriber to, although I like the paper very well so far as I have had the opportunity of reading it. But as I am a subscriber to other similar works, I never intended to take it or expected to pay for those numbers that I have received. The paper has not come to me *regularly* which strengthened the belief that it was sent by an individual.

Under these circumstances I have concluded to remit to you two dollars which you will find enclosed and which I hope under the circumstances will be satisfactory. I do not wish to avoid paying ALL my honest dues or debts which I knowingly contract; but at the same time I do not think it right to force a paper however worthy or valuable it may be, upon a man without his consent. I wish the paper discontinued, of course. W.

MOUND NURSERY, Canton, Ill.

Jan. 17th, 1853.

ED. VALLEY FARMER—Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find \$1 for current volume of the *Valley Farmer* which you will continue to send to the address of C. R. & N. Overman, Canton, Ill. We have been in regular receipt of it for the past season. I know not to whom we are indebted for the favor; if to your office, please inform us so, and we will remit forthwith. Though we take a number of similar papers, yours is not the least welcome as it makes its monthly appearance. We say so on in your spirited and laudable undertaking, and may the progress and importance of the 'Farmer' be commensurate with that of the great Valley itself. Progression is the 'main-spring' and glory of our existence, and HERE, in our mighty valley is its peculiar 'empire declared.'

With the most hearty wishes for your eminent success, we have honor to be your obedient

Your ob't. serv'ts.

C. R. & N. OVERMAN.

Correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

GETTING SUBSCRIBERS.

ALEXANDER Co., Ill., Jan. 18, 1853.

Mr. Editor:—We have just received our first number of the Valley Farmer for 1853. A book like it is something new to our farmers. The first appearance of it was on this wise: I got hold of the April number of '52. I took it home with me and read it. I liked it so well that I went about a little among my neighbors to see if they didn't want something of the kind. To my great surprise, those that I did think would subscribe seemed to be very backward. Some thought it not worth while, and some didn't have the money, and didn't care much; some thought they wouldn't spend any money for the like; others thought it wouldn't learn them any thing; another couldn't read; another could not read well enough to take a paper; some thought that they would borrow ours, and that would do just as well, and so on. However, I succeeded in getting three besides myself; two more have spoke to me to send for it, and several I have not seen I think would like to read a book like the Valley Farmer. I feel interested in the circulation of the Farmer, and wish all my neighbors would take it, and I will continue to try and have as many as I can get send on by the time the farming season sets in.

A. J. M.

For the Valley Farmer.

Agriculture and Democracy.

The great agricultural interests of our country, constitute the sub-stratum upon which our government rests, and to which all classes look for support; and more than this, it is from the agricultural masses that the great conservative principle emanates, which can alone insure the perpetuity of our government with all its concomitant blessings.

How indispensable then is it, that all the producing classes should be inducted into the science of agriculture; so that the accumulating demands at home and abroad may be met by moderate and well directed efforts.

Under the benign, patriotic, and expansive principle of progressive democracy, we acquired, many years ago, the country we now inhabit, extending from the frozen North, to the burning South; embracing every desirable latitude, the most fertile soil, the noblest Rivers, richest minerals, together with many other elements of wealth and greatness.

One of our late Presidents immortalized himself, by the acquisition of a country, reaching from our former possessions to the Pacific Ocean.

To recount the incalculable benefits, resulting from this last acquisition, would only be to demonstrate a problem which has already

been fully solved, and presented to an astonished and admiring world!

The same philanthropic principle (for democracy is only another name for love,) contemplates still further acquisitions to our beloved country.

Our benevolent arms will remain open wide, ready to receive, to our warm and confiding embrace, Cuba and all of Mexico, so soon as they shall be ready to fall into them; and that will not be long.

Although we may now have nothing to fear from sectional commotions, fanaticism, and reckless, corrupt, and designing demagogues, yet some may think we have much to fear from another source.

If sound morality and intelligence among the masses, do not keep pace, with the rapidly increasing population of our widely extending country, it will not be many years before our government will begin to totter to its fall: but, thank heaven! of all others, this object is most dear to the benevolent and patriotic heart of *Progressive Democracy*, and of course will receive all needful attention: so that, we may predict with certainty, that our country will not only continue to be 'the land of the free and home of the brave,' but an asylum for the oppressed and down-trodden of all nations!!

D. C.

For the Valley Farmer.

Mr. Editor:—I wish to inquire through the pages of the 'Farmer,' whether you or any of your Correspondents, can give any information in regard to fat cattle being troubled with lice? Several cases have occurred in this neighborhood in the last few years, of very valuable animals dying, apparently with no other disease. The first case was a fine Durham Bull, the owner of which told me he used on him all the usual remedies for poor stock affected in that way, without relieving him; he lingered for about two years and died. The other cases seem to be going in the same way, resisting all the remedies known to the stock raisers here. If you can throw any light on the subject, you will oblige

A YOUNG FARMER.

ILLINOIS INDUSTRIAL CONVENTION.—An assembly of a highly interesting character was held early in this month at the State Capitol of Illinois. From the Springfield journal we gather the following particulars in respect to it:

Delegates appeared from the Buell Institute, LaSalle County Agricultural Society, Northwestern Pomological Association, and from counties in which societies are not yet formed.

Letters of the highest interest and most encouraging character were read from JOHN A. KENNEDY, of North Field, and D. PRINCE, of Morgan

county, which fully confirmed the impressions derived from all parts of the State, that the people were awakening to the importance of having high schools and colleges for the special education of the mechanic and the farmer in the things next him. That as schools are now specially adapted for the teaching of Law, Medicine and Divinity, so there should be schools specially adapted for teaching the equally important and useful sciences of Agriculture, Horticulture and Mechanics, and the Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene pertaining to each of these industrial sciences.

The officers of the 'Industrial League of the State of Illinois,' are, J. B. Turner, John Gage, Bronson Murray, L. S. Pennington, J. T. Little and Wm. A. Pennell. The object of the League, according to their Declaration, is the creation of a fund, to be employed in disseminating information either oral, written or printed; keeping up a concert of action among the friends of Industrial Education; and the employment of lecturers fitted to the purpose, to address citizens in all parts of the State.

Such is a brief outline of this movement and its present achievements. It has gone on year after year, gaining strength and friends, shedding its influence as the glimmerings of a brighter day, holding the fiercest opposition in check, and quietly awaiting the decision of the people, being in perfect harmony with the practical character of the American people.

The World's Fair at London is but one instance of this; and that at New York, with its Crystal palace of iron and glass, all evince the high interest the age feels in the improvement of industry to the highest scientific attainment.

State Agricultural Society.

The friends of agriculture met in convention, January 5th, in Springfield, for the purpose of organizing the Illinois State Agricultural Society. They concluded their deliberations at the evening session, in the Representative's hall, by adopting a constitution, and electing their permanent officers. A president, nine vice presidents—one from each congressional district—recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer.

James N. Brown, Sangamon county, President.

John A. Kennicott, Cook county, J. E. McClun, McLean county, Michael Collins, Adams county, Smith Frye, Peoria county, Francis Arenz, Piatt county, C. W. Webster, Marion county, Ichabaud Mitchell, Wayne county—vice Presidents.

Paschal P. Enos, Sangamon county, recording. Bronson Murray, La-Salle county, corresponding secretary.—E. N. Powell, Peoria county, treasurer.

A large number enrolled their names as members of the society, and paid in the entrance fee of one dollar.

Resolutions adopted:

1. That the society apply to the Legislature for an appropriation of one thousand dollars, for two years.

And a committee of three was appointed to apply for said grant.

2. That the committee be instructed to draft a charter for the society, and to present it to the Legislature.

3. That a committee be appointed to draft an agricultural address to the people of the State of Illinois.

4. That 500 copies of the constitution and proceedings of the convention be printed, and that each member be furnished with a copy.

5. That the proceedings of this convention be published in the newspapers in this city, and all the papers in the State friendly to the cause.

ARTIFICIAL STONE.—Owen Williams of England, has just taken out a patent for the manufacture of artificial stone. The following ingredients are used in preparing it, 180 lbs. pitch, 4 1-2 gals. dead oil or creosote, 18 lbs. resin, 15 lbs. sulphur, 44 lbs. finely powdered lime, 180 lbs. gypsum, 25 cubic feet of sand, breeze scoria, bricks, stone, or other hard materials broken to pieces, and passed through a half-inch sieve. The sulphur is first melted with about thirty pounds of pitch, after which the resin is added, then the remainder of the pitch with the lime and gypsum, which are introduced by degrees and well stirred, and the dead oil is fit to be moulded into blocks. In order to consolidate the blocks, pressure is applied to them in the molds. The patentee gives also the proportions of the above material to be used as a composition for laying pavements, as a cement for uniting to each other blocks of the first-named composition, when used for building purposes, and as a coating for bridges, the roofs of buildings, &c. The artificial stone hardens in about a week, when it becomes as stubborn as granite. The composition is not only very durable, but a cheap one, it costing less to erect buildings out of this material than from the commonest kind of brick. A roadway plastered with this material, becomes a smooth solid, flooring of rock in about ten days.

THE WAY TO KEEP POOR.—Two glasses of beer per day, at two cents per glass; amount in one year to \$14 60. Two cents worth of tobacco, and three cents worth of cigars per day, in one year amount to \$18 25. A dog that is useless, will consume say \$5 per annum, a filthy cat \$2, and no one keeps a cat or dog at less expense, unless the animals steal from their neighbors. These sums together amount to \$39 85; enough to buy five barrels of flour at \$5 per barrel, two cords of wood at \$4 per cord, and seven pair of shoes.

From the Prairie Farmer.

Winter Butter.

MR. EDITOR:—Cold weather has come, and with it the dairy-woman's trouble; the cream rises and foams in the churn; the butter will not 'come' without much labor, and when it does come it is not good.

I think experience has taught a complete remedy for all these evils. They are all caused by the cold. If the milk is kept in a room so warm as to be comfortable to live in, and the cream warmed a little before commencing churning, the butter will come quick and have a pleasant flavor.

But it may not be convenient to keep it in a room warmed by a stove. In that case I would heat the new milk over the fire till it was hot, but do not let it boil, that hurts the flavor of the butter. Do not let the milk freeze. Have the cream the right temperature before you commence the churning, and it will not fail to come quick. At least I have tried it for two winters, and it has not failed once, and the butter comes much nicer than before I practiced heating the milk.

N. B. I have found a free circulation of air always essential to making good butter. If the milk is set in a tight cupboard or the pans covered, no after management can give the butter the rich flavor that it will have if the air passes freely over the milk. A cupboard with the back and door made of thin cloth is very good, if it stands where the air can circulate all around it. I recommend heating the milk in winter, to all lovers of good butter.

R. L. C.

Morgan co., Ill., Nov. 26th, 1852.

A Word to Keepers of Sheep.

A large majority of the farmers of Ohio, think that, give a sheep grass during the spring summer and autumn months, nay during the early part of winter, and hay and grain towards spring; if they die from poverty in the spring, as many of them do, it is attributed to bad luck. The unlucky man will say that he feeds his sheep all the grain they want in February and March and they still go down in flesh, and many of them die, while those belonging to his neighbor get through these trying months on half the grain and keep in good flesh. Why is it? It must be luck. Now if the unlucky man will look at his neighbor's sheep occasionally in the month of November and December, he will find them on good feed and looking strong. His lucky neighbor will tell him that when the frosts come in the fall the pastures fail in substance, and this is the time when sheep require care and attention. They should have some good hay and a little grain. A sheep to endure the approaching winter should be provided as well with a coat of flesh as of wool. If he goes into the winter strong, it is easy to bring him out strong

in the spring; but if he is thin in flesh in the fall, all the grain that can be given will not bring him up. A peck in December is better than a bushel in March—an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure. But the unlucky man will say, his sheep will not eat hay, he carried them an arm-full a few days ago, and they ran over it and tramped it into the mud; as for grain, he never thought it necessary to be given until February, when sheep got weak.

Now if the unlucky man will put his hay in racks to prevent its being trampled under foot and will adopt his neighbor's mode of feeding, he will find in March, that there is more in management than in luck.

[Ohio Cult.]


UNCLE BILLY.

Small Potatoes.

The *New York Agricultor* is responsible for this:

No doubt farmers wonder what we want with so many small potatoes in the city, and that they can find sale for such as they used to feed the pigs, at six shillings per barrel—about half-price of good ones. We will tell them. They are bought by the bakers, and after being washed clean; are boiled or steamed, then mashed and mixed with waier, and passed through a sieve, leaving the skins behind, and mixed with flour, and baked into 'warranted pure Genesee flour bread.' Very good bread it is too, notwithstanding, one-third of the superfine flour is made of cheap potatoes. We are not informed whether the stale loaves, after being roasted and ground, are sold as pure coffee, or not. Our impression is, it is sold as mixed—say one-fourth.

Improved Clover Thresher.—In order to obviate the inconvenience at present experienced in threshing clover and other seed, a new arrangement of the machine has been invented by Sandford Mason and Seth M. Eastman, of Millport, N. Y., who have taken measures to secure a patent. It consists in employing a cylinder with projections or teeth on its periphery, and two additional sets of teeth, one above fixed to the frame, and the other below on a fast bed; the former are used for threshing the straw, and are of shape corresponding to that object; the latter are made concave, so that the projections on the cylinder fit into their recess; and thus act as a rasp, by which the seed are cleaned from the heads.

 A mad horse was shot at New Orleans on the 5th inst. It appears that the animal was bitten by a mad dog, and symptoms of hydrophobia manifested themselves in the horse, who commenced running about furiously, and biting at everything. It is said that he bit a person by the name of Nolan.

SHEEP IN CALIFORNIA.—Those speculators who have brought sheep the past season to this state, will realize a great profit—being regarded altogether as a luxury, never realizing less than fifty cents per pound. Most of the sheep that we have hitherto killed have been received from Sonora, in Mexico. The quality of the Sonora sheep is delicate for the staple but is a coarse woolled animal. It is a remarkable fact that sheep in California are almost free from diseases such as attack them elsewhere—the foot rot, &c., being entirely unknown. In some bands, where care has been taken, they have increased in size.

We would recommend dealers who are bringing stock across the plains to be a little careful in the selection of their sheep, especially choosing those which are fine woolled, in as much as they cannot depend upon the present high rates obtaining for any long period, and particularly because this state will necessarily eventually become as famous for its wool as it is now for its gold.

These sheep which have arrived this season look remarkably well; and the persons who brought them say that they had no difficulty in bringing them over; and that they are less trouble than any other kind of stock. Messrs. Pattersons brought over a band of about 1,500; they are looking well, and are worth in this market \$15 a head.

Sheep will also be a valuable acquisition to California, owing to the scarcity of water on the plains in the summer time, and this description of stock requiring so little of it, doing better on dry pasturage than on wet. They will grow larger with water only three times a week than with more, as has been proved in many instances. One of these cases we will mention. A farmer had a stock on a creek where they had water every day, and his son had another band taken from the same stock on the plain where they only had it twice a week. It was found that in the latter case they grew larger and thrived better in every respect.—*San Joaquin Republican.*

To Preserve Beans and Peas.

A new method of keeping the above quite fresh for any length of time, so that they shall lose neither their taste nor original softness, has been lately introduced by A. Albert, of Paris. Take the beans when not bigger than large peas, and pursue the following directions for both vegetables:

Plunge them for a minute, in boiling and afterwards in cold water, and after having washed off the water, spread them out for several hours on canvas frames. Then place them in an oven slightly heated on frames covered with paper, leave them long enough to be of the same warmth as the oven, and then expose the frames to a current of air until the articles are

hold. The frames are then to be replaced in the oven and again exposed to the air, these operations being repeated until the beans are perfectly dry, not so as to break, but almost like beans dried naturally. The articles should be gathered and dried on the same day, if not, they should be left during the night in the oven; they should be kept in dry and clean bottles, and to each bottle of beans there should be added a bunch of dry savory. Before using the vegetables they should be steeped for some hours in tepid, or over night in cold water; if they are beans the water is thrown away, and they are cooked in the usual manner, but if peas, they are only covered with water, which will be entirely absorbed, and they are cooked like green peas. Vegetables prepared in this manner are quite as good as if they had been just gathered.—*Genie Industriel.*

Scrofula in Pork.

The Editor of the Journal of Organic and Medical chemistry, an able and new periodical comes out savage on pork. He 'defies all hog eaters, chemists and physiologists to prove that hog's flesh is a healthy article of diet.' He asserts that the name *scrofula* 'had its origin in a disease peculiar to swine.' This is true, the Greeks gave it this name—'swine disease.' It may however be as wrongfully applied as many other terms. A man is called a *dunce* as an evidence of stupidity, derived from the term applied to the followers of the metaphysician, *Duns Scotus*, by their less able but more bitter opponents. Nevertheless, there appears to be something between *scrofula* and pork, if the testimony of many able physicians is to be believed. There are some, however, who ride upon different hobbies; one upon one kind of food, and another upon a different kind. One will advocate bran bread and vegetables, another, beef, pork, wine and beer. There should be a moderation in all things, for bad beef is just as full of *scrofula* as bad pork. The great object in selecting food is to have it good—in proper condition, and when hogs are fed upon good provender, and killed in good health, their flesh, if eaten in moderation, we presume will not cause disease. People of fair complexions; who live in cold, changeable climates, are subject to *scrofula*. We believe, however, that too much pork is eaten in our country, and the strictures of the Journal of Organic Chemistry, are required to arrest attention and direct it to the unbounded use of pork for food among our people.

If you will keep your hands from chapping during the winter, wash them as often as you please, but rub them 'bright dry' each time; don't leave a particle of moisture for the cold air to act upon.

Apples as Food for Stock.

The late Payne Wingate, of Hallowell, Maine, made some experiments in feeding pigs with apples compared with potatoes. Both the apples and potatoes were boiled, or rather stewed, separately, and about four quarts of oat and pea meal mixed with each bushel, at the time the cooking was finished—the meal being intimately incorporated with the potatoes and apples while they were hot, and the mass left to ferment, slightly, before it was fed to the pigs.

Two pigs of the same litter, and as near as practical, of the same weight, were taken; one was fed for a week on a given quantity of the cooked potatoes per day, and the other on the same quantity of apples. At the end of each week the pigs were weighed and the food was reversed—the pig to which the potatoes had been given, was fed with apples, and the one which had received apples, was fed for the next week on potatoes. This course was continued through several weeks—the food of each pig being changed every week. The result was, that the apples proved to be fully equal, or somewhat superior to the potatoes. In this instance the apples were mostly sweet, and they, as well as the potatoes were nearly in a ripe state.

On another occasion Mr. W. experimented with sweet, compared with sour apples, in various ways. He found that when they were fed raw to swine, the sweet apples were preferable—the animals ate them better, as the sour apples seemed to make their teeth sore; but when both were cooked and mixed with meal in the way above described, there was no difference in the gain produced by an equal quantity of each. It should be stated, however, that all the apples used were of palatable kinds, nearly ripe; and that unripe and ill-flavored are known to be less relished by stock, as well as less nutritive. It is probable, also, that when sour apples are eaten raw, and in considerable quantities, the animal may take into the stomach too large an amount of acid, which may tend to derange the digestive organs. This objection would be chiefly obviated by cooking, and the saccharine fermentation, by which the pulp loses much of its acid, and becomes nearly sweet. It does not appear from analysis, that the amount of actual nourishment is much greater in sweet than in sour apples.

Mr. Wingate practised fattening swine for several years, on food composed principally of apples. The animals attained good weights, and the pork was solid and of excellent quality. In other instances, we have known apples fed raw to horses, cows and other stock with much advantage. For using in this way sweet apples would probably be the best, and they should be such as will keep till spring. They

may be stored in under the barn, or in the bottom of the hay mow—a proper place having been left for that purpose when the hay was put in. They will be more likely to be injured by heating than by freezing. They will seldom freeze in such a situation as is mentioned; and if they should be touched by frost their nutritive properties will not be much lessened, if they remain in a dark place, and where they will thaw slowly.

A peck of apples a day, fed to a cow, has been found to add more than a quart to the daily quantity of milk, beside greatly increasing its richness, as well as improving the condition of the cow. The effect of apples is equally favorable to other stock. Horses fatten on them, and their coats assume the brilliancy which hardly any other food will give them. For all stock they answer a similar purpose as vegetables, in preventing costiveness, which is likely to ensue from the exclusive use of dry food; and in this way, and by the nutriment they contain, they contribute much to the animal's thrift.

An impression prevails that apples will dry up the milk of a cow. This idea has been imbibed either from the effect produced on a cow by eating a very large quantity of apples at once, by which surfeit and fever were brought on, or from the trial not being properly conducted till the animal had become habituated to the food. The ill-effects attributed to apples would have occurred with any other rich food, as any kind of grain, potatoes or other vegetables.

A fair average product of an acre of orcharding, in good bearing condition, may be estimated at two hundred to three hundred bushels a year; and at this rate, we doubt whether so great an amount of animal nourishment can be obtained from the same extent of land, in proportion to the expense, by any other crop. We should not hesitate, therefore, to recommend the cultivation of apples as food for stock.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 1.

The National Agricultural Society met yesterday at the Smithsonian Institute, and adjourned till to-day. A large number of Agriculturalists were present.

MARSHAL P. WILDER, President, called the assemblage to order this morning. W. S. King, of Rhode Island, Secretary. The States were called, and most of them represented. Several members of Congress, and other distinguished men, were present.

Professor Mapes presented a specimen of the Japan pen, a very productive plant; also the California soap plant.

President Wilder delivered an appropriate address, submitting various subjects for the consideration of the Society.

TRANSACTIONS.

Agricultural Societies.

We design, the present year, to devote considerable space to the doings of the different Agricultural Societies around us, and to this end we request secretaries and other officers connected with county societies to furnish us the proceedings of their respective organizations that we may publish them.

We hear of movements in various directions to organize, and we know there is a spirit being awakened all over our great valley to concentrate the energies and experience of the farmers in associations to elevate and improve their calling, and lay hold of those advantages and benefits which are measurably beyond their reach in their individual capacity.

We publish this month the proceedings of the citizens of our own county—St. Louis. We feel proud of, and encouraged at the success which has thus far attended this movement. With hardly any previous notice a large meeting convened to organize the society—comprising some of the very best men in the county, and the spirit and enthusiasm which animated them augured well for the future efficiency of the association. The Society has taken right hold of the work—resolved to have a fair in the month of October next, and to bring out the resources of the county in a manner to show that we are not all ‘bad farmers’ in St. Louis county.

We also publish the circular and constitution of the United States Agricultural Society, recently formed at Washington city, to which we desire to call the particular attention of our readers. A national Agricultural Society, properly conducted, may be of incalculable benefit to the interests of the farmers of the country; and the only way to have it properly conducted is for the farmers to join it and control its operations. We hope to see a good degree of Western influence in this Society, and though we do not expect so much immediate practical benefit from this as from the State and

County Societies, yet we do think that great ultimate good will result from it.

County Agricultural Society.

At a meeting of citizens interested in agriculture, held at the Criminal Court Room on Monday, January 10th, 1852, pursuant to a call previously published, Dr. GEORGE PENN was on motion called to the chair, and Mr. H. C. HART appointed Secretary.

On motion of Mr. E. ABBOTT it was

Resolved, That it is expedient at this time to organize an Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association for St. Louis County; and that a committee of five persons be appointed by the chair to prepare a constitution for such an association, and report to an adjourned meeting to be held on Saturday, the 15th day of January, inst., at 11 o'clock, A. M., and that a committee of a like number be also appointed by the chair, to prepare an address to the farmers, stock raisers, fruit growers, and mechanics of this county, soliciting their cooperation with us in this work, said committee to report at the adjourned meeting.

The following gentlemen were constituted such committees:

Committee to Draft Constitution.—E. Abbott, W. P. Fenn, Dr. G. Penn, J. Lay, Chas. L. Hunt.

Committee to prepare Address.—G. Lindell, R. D. Watson, Lewis A. T. T. January, H. C. Hart.

On motion of Mr. W. P. FENN,

Resolved, That the city papers be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

GEO. PENN, President.

H. C. HART, Secretary.

ADJOURNED MEETING.

Pursuant to adjournment, a meeting of citizens of St. Louis city and county, interested in agriculture, was held in the Weld Buildings in the city of St. Louis, January 15th, 1853.

The proceedings of the previous meeting having been read, Mr. E. ABBOTT, Chairman of the committee appointed for that purpose, submitted a draft of a constitution

for an Agricultural, Horticultural, and Mechanical Association, for St. Louis county, which, on motion of Hon. EDWARD BATES, was unanimously adopted.

Mr. E. ABBOTT, on behalf of the committee appointed to prepare an address to the people of St. Louis city and county, on the subject of agriculture, read an address, which, on motion of Mr. JESSE LINDEL, was adopted.

On motion of Hon. EDWARD BATES, said address was ordered to be published.

A large number of persons having enrolled their names as members of the society, under the constitution just adopted, on motion of Mr. CHAS. L. HUNT, the society then proceeded to the election of officers; as follows:

THOMAS SKINKER, *President.*

E. ABBOTT,
H. C. HART,
T. T. JANUARY,
JNO. SIGERSON,
P. TIPPETT,
LEWIS ADIE, } *Vice Presidents.*

WM. M. PLANT, *Rec. Secretary.*
WM. WARDER, *Cor. Secretary.*

CHAS. L. HUNT, *Treasurer.*

Thomas Allen,
Edward Bates,
R. D. Watson,
W. P. Fenn,
Alex. Kayser,
Charles Rannels,
John Lay, } *Directors.*

On motion of Mr. CHAS. HUNT, 500 copies of the constitution of this society, just adopted, were ordered to be published for circulation, in pamphlet form.

On motion of H. B. BELT, it was resolved that this society approves of the efforts of the "Valley Farmer," in the cause of agriculture, as edited by E. ABBOTT, Esq., of St. Louis; and we cordially recommend the same to the favorable consideration of the members of this society and the farmers throughout the county and State.

On motion of Mr. CHAS. RANNELS, the city papers were requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

GEO. PENN, *President.*
H. C. HART, *Secretary.*

To the Farmers, Stock Raisers, Fruit Growers, and Mechanics of St. Louis County:

The undersigned having been appointed by a portion of the citizens of this county, assembled for the purpose of organizing an Agricultural Society to address you in behalf of such an association, and to solicit your co-operation therein, would respectfully call your attention to the subject.

It can hardly be supposed necessary at this time to present any argument to prove that the people of this county would be vastly benefitted by the operations of an efficient county Agricultural and Mechanical association—holding its annual fairs; encouraging the importation and breeding of superior animals; introducing a better and more diversified system of culture; developing the agricultural and mineral resources of the county; improving its stock; testing the various agricultural implements which from time to time are presented to the patronage of the farmer—stamping the worthy with its approbation and putting the ban upon the worthless; giving its encouragement to and causing the establishment of various kinds of manufactures among us—thereby retaining in our midst immense sums of money which are now sent abroad for articles that might as well be produced at home;—above all, uniting all the people of the county in the bonds of sympathy, good feeling, and brotherhood.

In every department of science, and in every department of business, the united experience of all time testifies to the utility of combining and associating the efforts of men to produce important results. Merchants know it, and hence their chambers of commerce and boards of trade. Politicians know it, and in every important election their organizations are found in every hamlet of the land. Christians see it, and unite in churches the better to effect the objects for which they labor. In fact every great object, whether in business, politics, or morals, is carried forward by the combined efforts of masses of men, acting in an associated capacity. And shall the farmer neglect to avail himself of this well known

principle? Shall he be so far behind all other classes as to plod on alone in the beaten track, seeking no aid from his fellows, and forever lagging behind all others in the career of improvement?

But what can we hope from the influence of an association like the one proposed? Let us take a hasty glance at the condition of things as they exist in our county and State, and then we will answer the question. In doing this we use the words of another:*

"While the practical deductions of science have given a new impulse, infused new life and energy into almost every department of human industry, we are cultivating our farms as did our sires and grand-sires before us. While, by the applications of science Watt and Fulton have given us steam ships to spurn the winds and stem the rolling currents of our mighty rivers; while the steam horse is puffing his way along the iron track to our rich prairies; while the lightning speeds to us the last changes in stocks and merchandise, and every move upon the political chess-board, while, in short, *progress* is stamped upon every thing, the farmer and mechanic are plodding on 'in the good old way of our fathers.' The result is, we, in this land of mighty forests, are importing and paying three prices for our lumber. Our houses, plank roads, and fences cost twice their usual prices. We go east for our agricultural and mechanical implements of every grade, from the plow to the butter stamp. With iron mountains and inexhaustible coal beds, we import every article of iron from the anvil to the ten-penny nail. Our mineral veins contain nearly every paint from the costly smalt blue to the yellow ochre; and yet all we use, with a single exception, comes from a foreign market. While we are exhausting the virgin wealth of the richest soil the sun shines upon, our crops are no better than those harvested from the once barren hills of New England; and inferior races of stock crop our luxuriant prairies.

"But you may say, 'we are doing very

well as we are.' Perhaps we are doing well enough; yet, if we listen to the syren song, we may be aroused from our dreams to the humiliating reality that our neighbors with fewer natural advantages are reaping richer harvests and supplying our markets with their domestic manufactures.

"While our mothers were doing *well enough* with their distaff and hand looms, and paying six bits for cottons, the factory girl with her power loom supplied the same article for one tenth the price. While our fathers were doing *well enough* shut up between the Atlantic and the Alleghanies, the restless energy of daring spirit crossed those mountains, penetrated their boundless forests, and opened the vast resources of this mighty valley. While the planters of Virginia were doing *well enough*, many of them were surprised to find their soils exhausted and unproductive. Many are doing *well enough* with mule wagons and mud roads; but the steam-horse with his iron sinews proclaimed their thriftless folly. While the jolly flat boatman was doing *almost too well*, the steam whistle startled him from his easy jolity, and gave a ten fold energy to the commerce of our western rivers. When perfection is reached, then, and not till then, will it be safe to 'let well enough alone.'"

This is all true in regard to all our State, but it is peculiarly true in regard to our own county. Having within our limits the great commercial emporium of this mighty valley, one of the best markets in the world, and possessing more wealth than any other county in the State, as much good land, and having every inducement that self-interest or a just pride of our high and influential position can confer, we are lamentably behind many other counties; indeed it is often said that the poorest farms and the poorest farmers and the poorest stock in the State is to be found in St. Louis county.

"The divine economy wisely provides that we shall eat our bread by the sweat of the brow; yet no divine or human wisdom demands that we shall toil and sweat, and sweat and toil on from year to year, simply

*Address to the Farmers of Missouri, prepared by a committee of the Boone County Society. We have copied largely from this admirable address.

for the corn cake and bacon our appetite demands. We believe we can do better—that we can become better farmers and better mechanics; and we repudiate the idea that anything is *well enough*, which can be bettered."

We therefore unfurl the banner inscribed with the glorious motto PROGRESS.

"In our efforts we ask the sympathy and aid of every profession. We do not ask others to labor for our benefit only, but for theirs also. We are the great heart of the body politic; if its pulsations are languid, the life blood will flow feebly in every department of human industry. We do not ask it as a favor; we demand it as a debt of long standing, one so just that all have frankly confessed the obligation whenever and wherever its claims have been presented.

"Since man was driven from Eden we have fed and clothed the world; we have built its dwellings and filled them with plenty and luxury; we have raised the mettlesome steed, constructed the iron horse, and launched the merchantman and the steamship upon the trackless ocean; we have been freely taxed for the support of public schools; and have contributed liberally for the endowment of colleges and universities, for the education of physicians and clergymen, lawyers and gentlemen; and yet we look in vain for a school where the science of agriculture is practically taught.

"This we contend is wrong; and as the guardians of our children's inheritance, as the lovers of our common country, we have resolved to do our duty in remedying the evil, that we, who have so freely aided others, will make one manly efforts to aid ourselves. Since our charities have not commenced at home, let them at least cheer our own firesides in their round of visitations."

We propose to accomplish the following objects:

1st. To improve our stock of domestic animals.

"That better stock can be obtained than what we now possess no one will doubt; and that good animals are more profitable

than poor ones is equally evident. It costs but little more to raise a horse worth two hundred dollars than it does one worth half that sum. A cow that milks twenty quarts eats but little more than one which milks only ten. And the same principle holds good respecting every class of animals from the noble horse to the farm yard fowl. Here then by a little outlay and a generous co-operation we can greatly increase the pleasure and income derived from our domestic animals."

Suppose that through the influence of this association in encouraging the importation and rearing of choice breeding animals; the average value of each horse in the county is increased one dollar; of each cow and ox fifty cents and of each sheep and hog twenty-five cents, would not this aggregate increase of value far out weigh the few dollars contributed to sustain the society. That much greater results than these may be obtained needs no demonstration. Yet where can the farmer who desires to possess good stock go to obtain it. Shall we forever be dependent upon New York, Ohio and Kentucky? or shall we raise them among ourselves, and in our turn supply the people of other sections, behind us in improvement, even as we for so long have been going abroad for ours.

2. To introduce the best variety of our staple crops.

"Farmers often cultivate an inferior variety, when a little effort would provide such seed as would secure a better crop without any additional labor or expense of cultivation. All such increase would be net profit; and though it amount only to a few dimes per acre, it would yield no mean sum continued through an ordinary life.

"Again it is a law of all vegetables improved by cultivation, whether grain roots, or fruit; that they degenerate by a constant cultivation in the same locality; but that a change of culture or locality will often improve them in both quality and quantity. Hence sound reason dictates a judicious introduction of new varieties, or the same from some distant locality, or one different in soil or culture."

3. To introduce improved Agricultural and Mechanical Implements.

Our warehouses are filled with every variety of implements and machines, from the sausage stuffer to the steam saw mill, and scarcely a day passes but some enterprising genius presents us with a new and wonderful improvement. We are well aware that there are many recent inventions of incalculable value to the farmer—many machines and implements which will aid him wonderfully in the prosecution of his business. In a country, especially where land is cheap and labor comparatively dear, any labor-saving machine which is adapted to his situation is highly worthy his attention. But how shall he distinguish the good from the bad? the valuable from the worthless? Shall he take the word of the maker or vender? Shall he try every thing himself? Or shall he by uniting with his brother farmers in a society such as we propose, avail himself of the aggregate experience of all the farmers of the country?

4th, To introduce improved modes of Culture.

"We will mention a single illustration only from the many which might be adduced. An excess of rain often retards the operations of the farmer much to his inconvenience and the detriment of his crops; while a scarcity of wet often proves equally destructive to the product of the field. But a judicious system of soiling and ditching will most effectually counteract these evils. That subsoiling and ditching are efficient antidotes to both an excess and dearth of rain may well be called the Agricultural Paradox; and yet both Philosophy and experience amply sustain the proposition. They are also most efficient means of promoting and sustaining the productive energies of the soil."

5th. To introduce new staples for cultivation.

"The expenses of transportation greatly reduce the profits of our farms. This evil would be obviated by the culture of such staples as would find a market nearer, or

such as would be less in weight and bulk, thus decreasing the cost of exportation."

6th. To introduce such a system of culture as will prevent that exhaustion of the soil which has proved so disastrous in some of the older States.

7th. To induce our State to provide a School, or an adjunct to some School where our sons may be thoroughly and practically taught all those Sciences which pertain to the Agricultural and Mechanical Arts.

"It may be said we have good Schools now. This is true; and it is doubtless true that the branches provided for are as well taught as their means will permit, and that they answer all the purposes of the learned professions. But something should be done for our professions. We wish our children so educated that they can bring all the treasures of science to the improvements of the farm and the workshop.

"Our sons are taught to trace the root of a word up through the French, Italian, Latin, Greek and Sanscrit, to discover its true meaning. But who of them can trace the root of the potato beneath the soil and discover the food it seeks there? They can measure the height of a lunar mountain, and decompose the nebula of the Milky way; yet their science would be at fault in removing a mole hill or in compounding a cement to pave a footpath.—They are carefully taught all the rules which govern the acquisition of wealth; yet they might live and die upon the richest mineral beds as ignorant of their existence as the bears of California.

Such are some of the objects contemplated by this Society. Are they not worthy of your support, and the support of every farmer in the country? If so, will you not unite with us in sustaining a Society, and use all your efforts to make it useful and efficient?"

Our country should take the lead in the great movement which is now making for improvement. Should a State Society be organized, how important is it that there should be an active, energetic County Society here to act with and aid it. Should an appropriation be obtained from the

Legislature for agricultural purposes ought we not to be ready in this county to share the benefits of that appropriation? And if we have any spirit of emulation, or any desire to learn anything about our calling, will we not enlist in this work with all the energy which its importance demands?

J. G. LINDELL,
R. D. WATSON,
LEWIS ADIE,
T. T. JANUARY,
H. C. HART.

United States Agricultural Society.

To the Friends of Agriculture:

The undersigned, President and Secretary of the *United States Agricultural Society*, in behalf of said body, respectfully invite the friends of agriculture, in all States and Territories, to join their national organization. Its objects are to embody in one central association, the valuable information already obtained by various local Societies, and to establish a more intimate connection between them; to correspond with foreign Societies, and to diffuse a knowledge of their most important agricultural improvements and discoveries; and, in the various ways, as set forth in the first number of the *Journal of the Society*, to aid the promotion of this noble art.

It is not by isolated and individual exertion, but by united and associated action, that rapid progress is to be made and a general interest awakened. Measures of a wise and efficient character should be taken to increase our knowledge of rural arts and sciences, as well as to communicate to every tiller of the earth such professional information and individual experience as the best farmers and planters are able to impart.

Friends of agriculture! In what terms shall we address you, to secure a practical recognition of the advantages of co-operation in a scheme that embraces every State and Territory in the Union, and is eminently calculated, as we believe to advance the great farming interest?

The plan of operations that has been adopted, is indicated by the Constitution of the United States Society, which is printed on this sheet, and to which your attention is specially invited.

It is obvious that this association cannot be useful to the country, unless many persons join it, existing Agricultural Societies give it their confidence and support, and government extends to it her fostering hand. No officer of the Society is paid for his services, and it is believed that the members will receive in its Quarterly Journal, seeds, plants, etc., a full

equivalent for the amount of their annual subscription.

The fee for membership has been fixed at the moderate price of \$2 per annum, or \$25 for life membership, in order to multiply the number of members, and to make the Society co-extensive with the country, and to enable it to put into the hands of each subscriber a Quarterly Journal, or an annual volume, valuable to himself and creditable to the Association and to American Agriculture.

A united and general effort to maintain a National Agricultural Society should no longer be delayed. Come, brother farmers! Let us engage in this worthy enterprise. Let us unite our strength and wisdom, and thus secure numerous and efficient representations in this Association, from all the States and Territories, and from all the local Agricultural Societies and kindred organizations throughout our country.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, President.

DANIEL LEE, Cor. Secretary.

Washington, Jan. 1, 1853.

NOTE. Allow us to call your particular attention to the Annual Meeting, which is to be held in the city of Washington on the first Wednesday of February next; also to section third of the Constitution, which provides for the election of members from the local societies to the General Board of Agriculture, and to solicit your prompt and cordial co-operation in procuring members, and sending delegations to attend this meeting.

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Preamble.—The undersigned, in order to improve the agriculture of the country by attracting the attention, eliciting the views, and combining the efforts of that great class composing the agricultural community, and to secure the advantages of a better organization, and more extended usefulness among all state, county and other agricultural societies, do hereby form ourselves into a society, and for its government adopt the following Constitution:

Name of the Society.—Sec. I. The name of this Society shall be the United States Agricultural Society.

Members' Dues.—Sec. II. The Society shall consist of all such persons as shall signify to any officer of the Society a wish to become a member, and who shall pay two dollars to the Treasurer of the Society, and a like sum thereafter; and of delegates from the State Agricultural Societies, in the States and Territories, and District of Columbia, who may be appointed to attend the annual, and other meetings of the Society, and who shall pay the like sum, and also of such honorary members as the Society may see fit to elect. Each mem-

ber shall be entitled to receive a Journal, or publication of said Society, containing an account of its proceedings, and such additional matter as shall be deemed worthy of publication, free from any expense except postage. Twenty-five dollars shall entitle one to the privilege of life-membership, and exempt him from any annual taxation.

Officers.—Sec. III. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice President from each State and Territory of the Union and from the District of Columbia; a Treasurer, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, an Executive Committee, consisting of five members; and a Board of Agriculture, to consist of three members from each State, Territory and District, to be appointed by the State Agricultural Societies where they exist; and where there are no such State Societies, by the Executive Committee of this Society. The President of this Society shall be *EX OFFICIO* a member and President of the Board of Agriculture, and of the Executive Committee.

Duties of Officers.—The President shall have a general superintendence of all the affairs of the Society. In case of his death or inability to discharge the functions of his office, the Board of Agriculture shall select a Vice President to act in his stead, and be clothed with the same powers; and he shall perform the same duties as the President until the next annual election.

Vice Presidents.—It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to advance all the objects of the Association in their several districts; to explain to agriculturists the character and objects of this Society, and endeavor to obtain their co-operation and support; to watch the advance of practical agriculture, and make known the results of the same, by reports or otherwise from year to year.

Board of Agriculture.—It shall be the duty of this board to watch the interests of agriculture, as they are or may be affected by the legislation of the country; to make such reports, memorials and recommendations, as may advance the cause of agriculture, promote and diffuse agricultural knowledge; to examine, and when necessary, report upon the practicability of establishing agricultural schools, colleges, and model farms; to set forth the advantages of agricultural and geological surveys, and to show the importance of the application of science to agriculture: to represent, through their reports, the relation of American Agriculture to that of foreign countries, and endeavor to obtain information from such countries; to point out the advantage of introducing any new staples, seeds and plants, and obtain, so far as practicable, annual statistical returns of the condition of

agriculture throughout the different States; all which information shall be published by the Society, and form part of its transactions.

Executive Committee.—The Executive Committee shall transact the general business of the Society, and shall designate the time and place for exhibitions, regulate the expenditures, and take such supervisory charge of the business of the Society as may best promote its interests. This body shall elect its own Chairman: three members shall constitute a quorum.

Treasurer.—The Treasurer shall keep an account of all moneys, and shall pay bills only after they have been audited by the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, and a member of the Executive Committee and countersigned by the President of the Society or the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Corresponding Secretary.—The duty of the Corresponding Secretary shall be to correspond with persons interested in agriculture; at each stated meeting he shall read such portion of this correspondence as may be of general interest; and it shall be his duty to carry out and advocate the views of the Board of Agriculture in obtaining, arranging and publishing any information they may desire to have laid before the agricultural community.

Recording Secretary.—The Recording Secretary shall keep the Record of the Minutes of the Society, and of its Executive Committee.

Sec. IV. The annual meetings of the Society shall be held at the city of Washington, on the first Wednesday of February in each year, when all the officers of the Society, not otherwise appointed, shall be elected by ballot, for the ensuing year; fifteen members shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee, however, shall be competent, with the approbation of the Society, to appoint occasional meetings, to be held at other points.

Sec. V. This Constitution may be altered at any annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members in attendance, provided that not less than fifty members be present.

St. Louis.—The population of St. Louis now numbers almost one hundred thousand! In memory, the city seems to have sprung up, as it were in a day, from infancy into full manhood. It is a great natural centre of business, and whatever may be the tendency of various railroads now building to divert a portion of the trade accustomed to go there to other towns, the amount thus abstracted will scarcely be felt. And St. Louis can build railroads as well as other cities, and her citizens are projecting and building them with all the activity that the fashion of the times demands.—*Gale's Ad*



Ketchum's Mowing Machine.

The great value of this implement induces us to place it more prominently before our readers, than could be done by simple advertisement. We were called upon some three years ago to see the machine, which Mr. Ketchum had then just got finished. It did not work to his satisfaction, but we were satisfied that he had struck the right track, and it would not be long before the last great improvement would be perfected. After being comparatively dormant for a year or more, it came into the hands of the present proprietors, by whom it has been improved and perfected, and can safely take rank with the most important labor saving machines of the age. It is interesting to know how many difficulties are conquered in most if not all important implements. At one time this was nearly given up because the knives clogged; a lucky thought of making a hole in the teeth obviated that difficulty. A defective attachment of the crank to the knives lead to frequent breaks of the bar, to which the knives are fastened. This was overcome by having the bar play in a cast iron shoe at the head. Another serious difficulty occasioned in heavy grass—by the tangling of the mown grass into bar and knives so as to prevent its cutting properly. This was overcome by attaching a very simple contrivance called a track clearer to the point. That was the last great improvement. It is now as near perfect as it can be made.

The cut tells the whole story of its simplicity. But it cannot tell how effective it is. We have used one now on nearly 100 acres, we have mowed light grass, and heavy grass, lodged and tangled, on rough and smooth ground, over stones, roots, and stumps; and in all places it has done its work well. It has nearly or quite paid for itself this year, and is just as good as new. It will cut in good ground with a span of horses and a man, 10 acres in a day, and do it better than it can be done by the best mower.

It is the great invention of the age, as far as the farmer is concerned, and is of far more importance to him, than the boasted invention of the telegraph. On large farms, mowing had become a laborious and expensive busi-

ness, and in a section where labor was scarce, it was almost impossible to secure a crop of grass until it had suffered. The harvesting machines had become general, and increased the farmers' profits materially, by diminishing the expense of curing his grain.

We now cut our grass by horse power, rake it by horse power, and put it on to the mow, if we please by horse power.

It is curious to note how surely improvements come into being as they are needed. It is within our remembrance that all our grain was cut by the sickle. That was a slow process, and when a man had 10 acres to reap, it was almost impossible to get hands to do it in time. Then came the cradle, and with it a large increase in grain growing, but in time the cradle became too slow, and expensive, and then came the harvesting machines, and horse power superseded human power. Henceforth the cradle, the sickle and the scythe can be dispensed with.

If ever a man was entitled to a testimonial from the public, it is Mr Ketchum; and we hope another year to assist in making him a substantial and handsome present. No farmer who owns a machine, will refuse to contribute liberally. *Wool Grower.*

From the Country Gentleman.

How to Raise Farmers.

How frequently do we hear those who have passed their lives upon farms, until they are approaching old age, regretting that none of their sons are willing to adopt their father's calling for a profession. And how often is it that of several sons that have been born and reared upon a farm, not one even, will remain contented upon the old homestead, to cheer, solace and comfort his parents in their old age, and to perfect the improvements they have commenced.

There must be some potent and general causes for this, or the most healthful, independent, and certainly remunerative calling, would not be so generally deserted by those who are bred to it, for those more harrassing, uncertain, and far less independent; and it may not be unprofitable to consider a few of these causes, and see, if with all the skill and judgment that has been displayed in improving and perfecting the products of the farm, there may not have been errors committed in regard to the farmer's sons; which errors, and not any inherent repulsiveness of the calling or any inherent perverseness among the sons of our rural population, have led to these results.

All young persons naturally possess some degree of pride of person, and a desire to improve their condition in life. Love of approbation seems the natural birthright of all, and whatever may be the calling or social position

young people are placed in, there are but few of this class who do not feel a desire to attain a still higher position, and to feel that he has achieved for himself a name and position that will command the admiration of his associates and friends. This feeling is manifested in a vast variety of ways, and in accordance with the amount of natural intellect the person has been blessed with, and the kind of education the person has received. Among certain classes, it finds voice in the strife to excel in feats of strength and agility, or in the capacity for physical endurance, in the performance of wonderful day's works, among farmers, or even in showing a capacity to resist the efforts of great errors in eating and drinking. Another class, whose brains are less developed, even, than those previously mentioned, and whose muscles have not been strengthened by physical labor, manifest the same feeling by the care which they cultivate the growth of hair upon their heads and faces, and the attention they pay to dress, and the conventional follies of polite society. As they have nothing within themselves, worthy of note, they endeavor to gratify this love of approbation and distinction by attention to their externals.

Others seem to care little for their own persons, but wish to become notorious from the beauty of their equipage, and their homes, and the speed of the team which draws them about. Again, there are those who wish to rise to political preferment, to have their influence felt by government, and as far as in lies, to sway the destinies of the people and nations.

Above all these, are those who wish to gain fame from having advanced the arts and sciences, or to achieve a name in the literary world, or to have their praises sounded as public benefactors, for the improvements they have made in the condition of humanity in the present or future. The true man will not be governed by purely selfish motives alone, but while he strives to advance his own interests, and secure personal advancement, he will also exert himself for the good of those around him. There are but few who are naturally wholly selfish, even among the extremes of humanity. The extreme poor have no time or means to devote to the welfare of others, and the extremely wealthy have acquired not inherited, their disregard for all but themselves or their families. It is natural for even the confirmed mammon worshipper to feel sympathy for their fellows, and to delight in social pleasures.

Let us see in what regard the sons of farmers as a class, enjoy opportunities for the indulgence of these natural desires. Infants and children are fond of notice sympathy: but many farmers, even those who have wealth

at command, have so many other things to care for,—so much stock and so many fields to look to, and their property cares consumes so much of their time, that they seldom notice their children, except to reprimand them for indulging their natural love for childish sports; and the wife and mother has so many household cares, that she is obliged to stifle the yearnings of a mother's heart, and, leave her tender offspring to the attentions of a hiring, or an older child. Thus even in early childhood, can be observed a striking contrast between the condition of these children, and those of a different calling.

Mechanics, traders, and professional men, congregate in villages and cities, so that the son or daughter of either is not obliged to pass months without the society of those of their own age, and seeing none but members of the family, or some adults whom business leads to visit the farm.

With this loneliness and ennui heavy upon them, can it be a matter of wonder that these lads should loathe the calling which they consider the origin of their sufferings? As soon as the boy is able to work in the field, he is frequently armed with a worn-out and heavy implement, and placed beside experienced and strong laborers, when, instead of being taught the easiest method of performing his labor, he is laughed at for his awkwardness, and taunted with his inefficiency. In too many instances he is kept at work upon the farm for long months, and from early till late at night, without recreation or rest, except to attend church, where the children of other occupations are better dressed and wear a happier and more intelligent look than himself; and if he has any aspirations for a higher mode of existence than that of a mere laborer, he must again and again resolve to adopt some other calling for himself and his boys, as the only method to attain his desires.

As he advances in years, he is still kept upon the farm during nine months of the year, while, boys, whose parents possess no more wealth than his, are sent to a school where their minds and their manners are improved; and where he is considered but a mere drudge of a farmer's boy, they are looked upon as young and promising men, who will make their mark in the world.

During the winter he has the cattle to look after, and a thousand chores to do, so that if he attends the district school he is frequently belated, and receives a chiding from the teacher for his involuntary tardiness; and during school hours, his mind is so much occupied by his home duties, that he can make but little progress in his studies, and he soon begins to think he is a dunce, as he is called by his mates.

As he advances toward manhood, his labor

is too valuable to be dispensed with, and he is still confined to the (to him) disagreeable and dull routine of his farm, in which he takes but little interest, for he never intends to be a farmer; and without any proper preparation for entering upon any other business, when he has attained his majority, he leaves the farm in disgust, and has got to learn the occupation he is to depend on for a livelihood.

Can we wonder, with this experience, which is a true transcript of that of a large number of those who have been reared upon a farm, that the homestead should be deserted, and the old farmers be obliged to pass the evening of their lives in sad and solitary loneliness; while their boys, for the want of a proper preliminary education should struggle through as *second or third* rate traders, lawyers, or physicians? for seldom do they, after leaving their homes, learn any mechanical trade. There are some, it is true, who leave the field for the bench of the artisan, but the most of them *purchase* their time of their fathers, and are glad even thus to escape from a life that has become so distasteful to them.

There cannot be any absolute necessity for the repulsiveness that most young men feel towards farm labor, and a farmer's life. Many who have been bred to other callings, and have passed years in the busy haunts of men, are looking forward with pleasurable anticipations to the time when they can leave their present harrassing and *dependent* occupations, (dependent either upon the employer or the public,) for the independent and healthful life of a tiller of the soil.

But the inquiry is, "*How to raise farmers,*" and I will endeavour to present a few hints derived from experience as well as observation, that may not be unworthy of attention.

The child should be able to discern that the father and mother enjoy life on the farm, in some methods other than the pleasure of having performed a large amount of labor, or accumulated property; for he has not yet learned thus to limit his sources of enjoyment. *Amusements* of some kind should be systematically procured for *all* young persons, whether on the farm or in villages. The spelling-book taught that,

"All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy;"

and many a boy would gladly quote the line, even if for a reply he should have its counterpart, if he did not *fear* more than *love* his parents.

No one, at so small an expenditure of money, can afford to their family such pleasant seasons of recreations, as can the farmer; even a ride to the neighbouring village with one, or with both parents would by most children be deemed equal to a holiday. The farmer has a team, and *he goes on business*, so there is no loss of time to him. But it is no un-

common thing to meet young persons nearly arrived to manhood, who have never been a dozen miles from the home farm, and every thing beyond these limits, wears a hue of mystery, which they are determined to remove as soon as they are freed from their present galling confinement. With a mere trifle of expense, he could gratify this laudable curiosity in his children, or he could entertain the children of his friends who reside in the village or city, and they even might almost envy *his* sons the privileges, while they are freely partaking of the fruit that otherwise would rot upon the ground.

Invite them to your homes, and let your lads show the large growth of plants and fruits, the docile and happy cattle and sheep, to those who will admire with wonder and delight, and resolve *themselves* to become tillers of the soil.

As regards clothing, every person should, *while at work*, dress in a manner befitting his employment; but there can be no reason why the children of farmers should be dressed in a manner that *must* deeply wound their pride of appearance, at all times, and on all occasions. As great would be the propriety of making the son of a shoemaker wear his leather apron to church, as there is in making farmer's children wear the clothing that is frequently provided for them. "But farmer's children should not be proud." They are and *will be* proud until all care for everything, except to accumulate wealth, is crushed out of them, and they will despise the calling that so frequently wounds their pride.

None should be favored with better opportunities for an *education*, than those who are to take the lead in Agriculture; for their are few callings where the mind can be exercised to better purpose, than in the improvement of the soil and its products. To understand how to treat the various soils, and how to furnish the proper nutriment for the great variety of plants grown upon the farm, at the least expense, so that the soils may not become deteriorated—to know how to manage the animals in sickness and in health—to understand their physiological laws, so as to be able constantly to improve them, making the offspring of more value than the parents; and that without a pecuniary loss, requires greater familiarity with the sciences, and greater activity of the mind, than is needed to manage a steamship, or command armies; yet by many it is supposed farmer's sons, need but to possess minds willing, and bodies strong to labor.

Order, regularity, and neatness, should be observed about the buildings and the fields, both because it is more profitable thus, and because then, the boys would be *proud* of their home and their calling, and be pleased to do all they could to improve and embellish their homes.

On all farms, there should be a room or shop, supplied with tools for repairing such implements as need repair, and for making such as can be best made there. Here, every implement in use on the farm, should have its place, and each be put in its place. Here, also, the boys might perform the philosophical and chemical experiment they have learned at school and from books—here they can analyze their soils, and try new experiments. This room should be the study and workshop of the farm, and here the young, and perhaps the older farmers, would be glad to assemble in stormy weather, and during the long winter evenings, to converse upon the past, and to mature plans for future operations.

But this study should not engross all the evenings of the boys. Our Creator endowed us with social feelings, and the entire family, and the young people of neighboring families, should often meet in social gatherings, for the purpose of mutual improvement and enjoyment. The parent and child, the aged and the young, should all unite in making the time pass in a pleasant and profitable manner.

The sports and sallies of youth, will cause the warm blood to flow more freely through the heart of the aged, and the wisdom of years will improve the minds of the young.

Taste, and a love for the country and rural pleasures, that can so easily and cheaply be gratified, will soon eradicate the yearnings for the exciting and destructive amusements of the cities, and the sons and daughters of the soil, that have been trained in the manner indicated, will "love with intense affection, every foot of ground they tread upon, every tree, and every vine, and every shrub that their hands have planted, or their taste trained;" and their affections will be centered in that family home, where their minds and affections were first developed, and where they were first taught to aspire for the happy and honorable position of the true "Country Gentleman." C. H. CLEVELAND. *Waterbury, Vt., Dec., 1852.*

Foundered Horses.

MR. EDITOR:—What is a foundered horse? As it respects their feet, it is a lame horse. Are all horses that are lame, foundered? Some people say so when they don't know what ails them.

I have seen horses that I was told had been lame for years, and were called foundered, when nothing but the shoeing from time to time, kept up an irritation, but there is a permanent lameness, such as a contraction of the heels, and swelling or bulging out in front of the foot, not being placed naturally under him.

He sprains his foot joint, and extends his feet forward, and when quite lame, he raises

placed directly under him, by raising or pulling off his shoe, and placing him in some soft place, like a barn yard, and he will get well, if attended to the first two months—the sooner the better.

What is the cause of this? I never heard any one express any other opinion than that they supposed it was by eating grain or drinking water. I have examined the subject a number of years, and have every reason to believe it to be a mistake; the thing convicts itself.

How can it be reasonable to believe what a horse eats for food, should single out one foot, and that always a fore foot, and always a concave, or dishing foot, never a flat one, and commonly the fleetest travelling horses. I ask how all this should take place on one forefoot, and all the others in good health, or both, after a while, and is then called chest foundered—one and the same thing; it has to favor the lame foot, and that comes on imperceptibly. Now there is a cause for all the lameness in a horse's foot, and that cause I have reason to believe is from improper shoeing; except accidents, such as wounds and bruises.

The process of shoeing is very easy; if we follow the case pointed out, we will suppose a horse has got his shoe off, and broken the sides of his hoof. The heel and toe are commonly entire; just rest the shoe on the heel and toe, so they may not rock or tilt; and if the shoe does not touch the sides, within an eighth of an inch, it will not affect his travelling at all, and the next time he wants shoeing, his hoof will be grown up square again, and may go thro' life in that way, without being lame, and his foot as perfect at the last shoeing as at the first.

Corns seem to think they have a right to put in for a share in laming horses. I shod horses 35 years, before I ever heard or saw the name of corns mentioned, and have seen but three that lamed them; it was something else put to their account.—Three times within thirty years, the English mode of shoeing horses has been published in one newspaper; the amount of it is, a shoe without a heel or toe, and have the frog freely touch the ground. It might do for a convex foot, because the frog is small and insensible, but a flat-footed horse has a larger, sensitive frog, and the shoe and heel should be high enough to clear the frog, or he will cripple. Its other objection is, when the heads of the nails are worn down, it becomes a skate, and cannot hold.

Much has been said and done to keep hoofs in order: two things are necessary—without them, all that I have seen done is of little consequence; with them, there is not anything else wanting. Keep the horse in the stable instead of pasture, and shoe him once in two

his heel and rests on his toe. Let the foot be months correctly, and a foundered horse will be a scarce article.

What I have written I believe to be true, and if it should be the means of saving one poor horse from being lame or foundered, I shall be richly compensated for my trouble.

Boston Cultivator.

To the Citizens of Missouri.

Within the present century two great efforts have been made in England to control the public mind, and to give direction to popular taste. The one was the attempt to revive the institutions of Chivalry, with all their romantic associations of tournament and joust, of pilgrimage, errantry, and Troubadour; of prancing steeds, and rich emblazonry; of sounding heralds, brilliant throngs, and maidenly prizes. But this, as every one knows was an eminent failure.

The other was to open an Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, at the city of London, on the 1st day of May, 1851, to bring together as fully as possible, the natural and artificial products of the world, and by a friendly rivalry in the display of the industrial genius and the artistic skill of each nation, to excite a proper emulation among them to still further advances in the modification of these materials to the wants, the comforts and the enjoyments of life. And this effort, as every one knows, was eminently successful, and its influences are every where beginning to be felt and appreciated.

Now why was this difference manifested in the success of these two prominent designs? Because, as must be obvious to every one, there was in the first instance only an effort to revive a dead body when the spirit which had animated it had long ceased to exist, whilst in the other, there was a combined and united effort to give vigor and firmness and maturity to an embryo which promised to develop a giant, fully capable of wielding the weaver's beam, animated by the spirit of the plain, practical and progressive tendencies of the Nineteenth century.

The advantages which flowed from this brilliant Exhibition were made manifest:

1. In an increase of knowledge not only of the natural productions of the earth and of the various arts applied by different nations in modifying them to the comfort and enjoyment of life, but of the interior economy of this life and of the philosophy of the institutions which have emanated from it under almost every variety of influence and diversity of relation.

2. In the influences of the scientific commerce, if we may use the expression, where the opinions and views of the most able and talented men of all nations were freely bartered and interchanged, to be carried home

and applied to other developments of industrial skill and inventive genius.

3. In the immediately suggestive influence on practical men from witnessing all the combined agencies of mechanical skill and inventive ingenuity applied in a thousand forms, and displayed in one connection and at one glance.

4. In the improvement of public taste, and the incentive to private ambition, offered no less by witnessing side by side the most renowned works in statuary and painting, of the past and present, but by observing how completely the agents and materials furnished by the hand of nature have been made to minister not only to the comfort and enjoyment, but to the luxurious elegance and refinement of life—in the old world.

5. In the fraternizing influence of nations meeting, in a time of profound peace, and in a spirit of friendly amity and rivalry to contest a claim to precedence in particular forms of improvement in the great march of progress.

Such are some of the advantages to be derived from similar exhibitions. In the exhibition at London, it is well known that American genius achieved many noble victories and brought home many brilliant trophies. In the great and friendly contest which we contemplate will take place at New York, commencing on the second day of May next, shall it be said that it has been less successful? We trust not—for we feel assured that the patriotism and the pride of our country will never be sacrificed on her own soil without a well contested struggle.

We would most respectfully urge upon the people of Missouri the importance of this undertaking, and call upon them to give us their aid, cooperation and encouragement in carrying out its designs. We feel satisfied that the State of Missouri possesses mineral resources equal, if not superior to those of any similar extent of surface on the globe. She possesses almost unbounded natural capabilities in the adaptation of her soil to the production of many of the most useful staples. She possesses manufactories applied to some of those staples and mineral products of which she may justly boast.— Her manufactures of Hemp, Tobacco, Flour, Sugar, Lead, Iron, and other materials, may, we think, bear a comparison with those of any other State or of any Kingdom or Empire.

But above all, she possesses a population, sober, industrious, intelligent, enterprising, full of inventive genius, nerved by a progressive spirit, capable, when well directed, of securing the most substantial rewards, and of working out the best results. With all these advantages shall Missouri shrink from the contest when an opportunity is presented to her of making a fair and a full representation of her resources? We know that there

is too much public spirit, state pride and patriotism among us for such a result. We therefore call upon our fellow-citizens; in every part of the State, to aid us in sending contributions to this Exhibition. The best samples, neither too large or too small, of our coal, of our numerous ores, and the metals produced from them; specimens, in one or two feet blocks, of our marbles, granites and porphyries; samples of kaolin, alum slate, white sand, and other materials used in the arts—and the natural products of our soil, hemp, tobacco, wheat, barley, oats, Indian corn &c., as well as selections of our forest trees, indigenous fruit trees, and vines; the products of our manufactures in copper and iron, and of handicrafts in general, and models of mechanism in use among us.

All these, if deposited with us before the 10th day of April next, will be forwarded on to New York, free of charge, where the sender or contributor is unable to defray the expense or transportation on the same. An ample warehouse has been provided, and the Secretary of the Committee Mr. M. TAYLOR, will attend to the reception of all articles sent to us, and give you certificates for the same. Hoping that we shall have the hearty encouragement and united cooperation of our citizens in this great measure, and that without delay, we remain,

Very respectfully,

H. A. PROUT, Chairman.

L. M. KENNETT, CHAS. P. CHOUTEAU,
WM. H. BELCHER, THOS. S. O'SULLIVAN,
A. S. MITCHELL, L. V. BOGGS,
A. B. CHAMBERS, THORNTON GRIMSLEY.

Since the discovery of the silver mines of Potosi, there has been extracted from them not less than sixteen hundred millions of dollars! The vein is said to be as rich now as ever it was; but it is not worked for the want of mechanical force, such as steam, and the facilities which steam alone can furnish.

Description of Cattle.

The following description of the structural formation of a good Ayrshire, is from an English Agricultural paper. It will we think be found that the same points generally indicate the same in what we call our 'native' cows, in the choicest milkers.

We will in proceeding to describe the most prominent features of the best kind of cattle for producing milk; confine ourselves to the Ayrshire, as these are the only breed in Scotland that are reared principally for their power of secreting the lactic fluid.—The particular points in the structural formation can be

understood by those having a knowledge of stock, without giving cuts. To those who do not understand stock we refer them to the cuts previously given in describing the Short-horns.

The head of both male and female should be small, rather long and tapering towards the muzzle which should be darker than the color of the skin, the eye large, lively but not too prominent. In both bull and cow the jaw bone should be strong and open behind, to admit of the throat being fully developed, where it passes from the head into the neck. The horns should be small, clean, crooked, and placed at considerable distance from one another at the setting on. The ears rather large, and orange tipped in the inside. The neck long, slender, tapering towards the head, and having the appearance of hollowiness; the skin and throat loosely attached to the lower part of the neck. The point of the wither or shoulder should be thin. The shoulder blades should be close above, with a very slight covering of muscle. The chest, fore quarters and neck should be light. The hind quarters large, and somewhat heavy. The back should be straight, gradually widening from the point of the shoulders towards the hook bones. These should be wide raised at the points, and presenting a somewhat scraggy look. The ribs towards the belvis should be wide and circular. These, with the joints, should appear open. The carcass should gradually deepen towards the hind quarters, and these should be deep. Dairy stock can scarcely be too long in the quarters. The quarters with the pelvis should be roomy—the buttocks should be square and somewhat fleshy—the distance between the top of the tail and the hook joints should be extreme.—The hock joints should be broad, as well as the legs above and beneath these joints.—The fore and hind legs should be short somewhat delicately formed at the joints as well as at the fetlock, and the animal should appear short legged. The feet should be round, somewhat large and strong. The tail should be set on rather at a curve, than at right angles. It should be long, tapering towards the point, and the quantity of hair to the

point should be moderate. The form of the milk vessel is of paramount importance. It can scarcely be too capacious; it should be well placed forward on the belly and appear behind the line of the thighs. It should have a somewhat square form, but not low, heavy, nor loose, nor fleshy. The color of udder is by some also deemed of great importance. It should be rather white than brown, except the color of the skin be wholly brown or black. The milk veins should be large and prominent, the teats should be placed wide apart rather small and pointing forwards.

Next in importance to the form of the udder is the touch. The skin should be thin, having the soft feel of a fine kid glove.—The hair should be soft and somewhat woolly. The color should be distinct; dark red, or approaching to black, are both fashionable. The colors, if two should be arranged in blot or small patches; light fawns are not uncommon, but are not deemed hardy; some are beautifully spotted with red on a white ground. The very light colors approaching to white are objectionable. A dash of the Alderney, as well as of the West Highlander, can sometimes be discerned, particularly in the color of the best Ayrshires; but the breed as a whole presents a characteristic distinctness of colors as well as of form. The animal when walking should have a gay and somewhat jaunty appearance, and present all the signs of a constitution. This latter point has been too much overlooked in judging of Ayrshire stock. The bull, if in a fair condition, should have an equal covering of fatty flesh all over the body, every part of it being clothed as it were with flesh. The skin soft, with the hair silky to the touch; and although he should be less feminine in appearance than a cow, he should not be too masculine looking. The muscels of both sexes particularly the female, should be somewhat slender. These will be best observed along the neck.

In judging of dairy stock., the first point is unquestionably the udder; the second, the touch; the third, the upper pointing of the hooks; the length of quarters; the fifth, roominess of the pel-

viis; the sixth, arching of the short ribs. The eye, size of jaw-bone, the form of neck, color &c., following the other points in somewhat the same order as in the Short horn. The medium size is usually preferred. The breed as a whole is diminished in size from the system rearing to which we have previously alluded. Full feeding the stock when young is known to injure their milk-secreting qualities, and is therefore generally carefully avoided.

What can Government do for Agriculture?

Hon. R. C. Winthrop, in his address before the Bristol Agricultural Society, spoke at some length on this subject. His ideas in relation to what can be done for American Agriculture by actual protection are comprised in the following paragraph:

'The great agricultural want of our country is the want of consumers and not of producers, of mouths and not of hands, of markets and not of crops. And this a want of which no Government protection, like that which has been or may be afforded to manufactures or to commerce, can possibly supply. On the contrary, that sort of protection would only increase the difficulty and aggravate the disease.'

He then proceeds to consider what Government can do for Agriculture, and in this connection says:

'In the first place, it can adopt systematic, comprehensive and permanent measures for ascertaining from year to year, or certainly from census to census, the actual condition of our country in relation to Agriculture, the quantity of land under cultivation, the proportion of cultivated land devoted to the production of different articles of food, the relation of production to population in the various States and in the country at large, the comparative productiveness of the same crops in different parts of the Union and under different modes of culture, and generally whatever details may be included in a complete statistical account of American Agriculture. Our commercial and navigating statistics are already provided for, as incidental to our revenue system. We need similar returns both of our agriculture and our manufactures, and I should

not be sorry to have them committed to a common Bureau.

In the next place, Government, State, and National, can encourage Agricultural Science and promote Agricultural Education. This subject has been so nearly exhausted, during the last year or two, by President Hitchcock's report to our own Legislature, by Dr. Lee's reports to the Patent Office at Washington, and by the lectures and addresses in which it has been treated in all parts of the country, I propose to notice it very briefly.

Undoubtedly the noble system of Common School education, which is already in existence among us, and for which we can never be too grateful to our Puritan Fathers, is itself no small aid to the cause of agriculture. The farmers, and the farmers' children, enjoy their full share of its benefits. It furnishes that original subsoil plowing to the youthful mind, which is essential to the success of whatever culture it may be destined to undergo. There is no education, after all, which can take the place of rearing, writing, and keeping accounts; and the young man who is master of these elemental arts, and whose eye has been sharpened by observation, and his mind trained to reflection, and his heart disciplined to a sense of moral and religious responsibility—and these are the great ends and the great achievements of our common schools—will not go forth to the work of his life, whether it be manual or mental, whether of the loom or anvil, the pen or the plow, without the real, indispensable requisites for success. The great secret and solution of the wonderful advance which has been witnessed of late years in all the useful arts, has been the union of the thinking mind and the working hand in the same person. Heretofore, for long ages, they have been everywhere separated. One set of men have done the thinking, and another set of men have done the working. The land has been tilled, the loom has been tended, the hammer and the hoe have been wielded, by slaves, or by men hardly more intelligent or independent than their brute yoke-fellows. In other countries, to a considerable extent, and even in our own, so far as one region and one race are concerned,

this separation still exists. But a change has been brought about by the gradual progress of free institutions; and in the free States of our own country especially, we see a complete combination of the working hand and the thinking mind, of the strong arm and the intelligent soul, in the same human frame. This has been the glorious result of our common school system, the cost of which, great as it has been and still is, has been remunerated a thousand fold, even in a mere pecuniary way, by the improvements, inventions, discoveries, and savings of all sorts, which have been made by educated labor, in all the varied departments of human industry. It is now everywhere seen and admitted, that the most expensive labor which can be employed, is ignorant labor, and fortunately there is very little of it left in the American market.

[From the New York Herald.]

The Caloric Ship Ericsson.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE.

We have to-day the gratification of chronicling an event in which the whole world is deeply interested, whose effect is to subject a new element to the power of man, and which is destined to form a new era in the history of commerce and navigation, and give an increased impetus to the strides of civilization. On Wednesday last, the Ericsson, the pioneer of a new system, the first ship constructed on the principle of propulsion by means of caloric, or heated air, made her trial trip down the bay with the most complete success. The important bearings of this enterprise on all great maritime and commercial interests, and the universal anxiety felt in the issue of the experiment, have induced us to devote a considerable space of this morning's Herald to precise and circumstantial detail of the trial trip, and to a minute description of the magnificent ship in which the experiment has been tried. The report will be found in another portion of our columns, and will, no doubt, prove extremely interesting and acceptable to our readers.

The triumphant solution given to the caloric problem by this trial trip, is calculated to elate to the utmost the friends of the enterprise, and to dispel the doubts and disbelief of those who smiled in-

credulously at the very mention of the word caloric.

Few men could be found sufficiently daring to hazard the capital necessary for such an undertaking, and Captain Ericsson was for more than twenty years reluctantly forced to make his own brain the sole repository of the theory he had constructed. It is a matter for pride, however, that New York was destined to give to the world the first realization of the grand project, and that it was one of our own enterprising merchants, who furnished the means necessary to carry it into execution.

In this age of invention the discovery of motive power as a property of heated air, ranks as one of the first among the wonders of which this century has been so fecund. Not only is the establishment of the principle, in itself, one of the most curious discoveries of modern science, but its practical application to the purpose of locomotion is pregnant with the most beneficial effects to mankind. The supplanting of steam by caloric, which will in time follow the introduction of the new principle, has numerous and incalculable advantages. Chief among these is the immense saving of fuel which will attend the adoption of the new system. *While a steamship of the same size of the Ericsson would consume on an average sixty or seventy tons of coal in the twenty-four hours, the latter would be fully supplied during the same time by six tons,* thus effecting a saving in this article of nine-tenths, so that a voyage round the world can be made without stopping at any intermediate place for fuel. The space now required for stowing coal can then be appropriated to carrying freight; and, not the least item in its favor, the disastrous accidents to which steamers are now liable cannot by possibility occur with caloric ships. Besides these advantages, the machinery of a ship built on the plan of the Ericsson will be of comparatively small cost, and will not require half the number of firemen and engineers; and so simple and easily managed is the machinery, that we learn that Captain Ericsson considers it unnecessary to accompany the vessel on her first voyage to London, but will confide her

to a competent engineer, he himself remaining in New York to engage in building other engines for the owners of the new ship. This is the strongest proof that could be afforded of the complete, and we no doubt, well placed confidence, which he has in his invention.

We wonder what, since caloric has become a real entity, will be the thought of those old fogies who scoffed and ridiculed the idea of employing it as a motive power, and who are always so prone to address human intelligence as the ancient Danish king did the waves of the sea, 'Thus far mayest thou go, and no further.' Vain and ridiculous as was the injunction of Canute to the deaf sea, is the spirit which would be disposed thus to set limits to man's progress in knowledge. The idea of using steam as a propelling power was, as we know, derided by the wise men of the day, just as the theory of supplanting it by caloric has been by the sages of the present. And yet the former has, within a generation, revolutionized society; and the latter has been, by the successful experiment of yesterday, established as a real, practical, and mighty fact.

If the first half of the nineteenth century has been distinguished beyond all ages in the eternity of the past, for those triumphs of human knowledge, the telegraph and the steam engine, and for having subjected the elements of steam and electricity to the control of man, and make them subservient to his comfort and happiness—so the beginning of the second half will be no less remarkable in having made available to the same ends another element, in which a motive power was hitherto unknown to exist. The name of Ericsson, the inventor and applier of this novel system of locomotion, deserves to be classed among those of the great benefactors of their race; and is perhaps destined to occupy as high a niche in the temple of fame as Watt, Fulton, or Fitch. And this great commercial metropolis of the New World will enjoy the enviable honor of having first given form and substance to the idea of the inventor. It is impossible to estimate its effects on existing interests; time alone can solve the problem.

The Valley Farmer.

ST. LOUIS, MO., FEBRUARY, 1853.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

Editor's office and Printing office, in Old Post Office Building, north side of Chestnut street, between Third and Fourth streets; entrance on Old Post Office Alley.

The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they have settled the bill and ordered the paper discontinued.
4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction they are held responsible.
5. The Courts have decided that refusing to take a paper from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled-for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

Subscribers will therefore understand—

1. That their papers will be continued after the expiration of the time for which they have paid unless otherwise ordered.
2. That no paper will be discontinued until arrearages are paid up to the time at which the notice is given, unless we are satisfied that the subscriber is worthless.
3. That when the paper, through the fault of a subscriber, has been suffered to overrun the time, the just and most convenient way is to remit one dollar for another year with directions to discontinue at the end of that time.

ADVERTISE!! We extract from the letter of a Howard county correspondent, the following remarks in relation to advertising:

"Tell that man who has so extensive a wagon making establishment, some where a mile or so out, he makes all sorts of 'dug outs,' that he must **ADVERTISE** if he wants our custom. He made a wagon with seats on elliptic springs that a cousin of mine bought to go to Texas. I want two or three of them, and others want them; but we do not know his name. Tell him to put in his advertisement, if he wants Howard county custom.

Tell those who make **REFRIGERATORS** also to advertise. Many of us want them up here.

In a word, tell each and every one that wants to be known, in any branch of business, that you have got a letter from your Howard correspondent that he, yes, he himself must let us know who he is and where he holds forth; that when we come down to the city, as a good many of us will do next spring and summer, to ride after the Iron Horse, we may know where to get what we want. Mrs. A. will also please recommend some Ladies Shoe store, that advertises; for the Ladies up here wear out many shoes, and they are connoisseurs in their boots and gaiters."

The way we are treated by those who owe us.

In our January issue we sent out bills to all our subscribers who owe us for more than one year, and in some cases to those who owe us

for 1852 only. We supposed that no reasonable man would take exceptions to this and that every liberal hearted man in consideration of the fact that we had waited upon him for two or three or four years would not only pay up for the past, but also pay for the present year.

By the answers which we receive to these missives we are able to judge pretty accurately of the kind of men we have to deal with.—For instance, does not such a letter as this tell:

Near Hannibal, Jan. 8, 1853.

Enclosed is five dollars in full of account rendered, and payment in advance for Vols. 5 and 6. W. F. S.

Now contrast the above with this from a man who owes us two dollars, and sent no money to pay it in his letter. We should expect such a man to leave for Texas.

Danville, Jan. 13, 1853.

GENTS:—You will please discontinue sending the Valley Farmer to me, as I expect to leave for Texas. G. H. B.

THE PRAIRIE FARMER for January comes out in a new dress, with J. A. Wight as Editor and Dr. Kennicott as Horticultural Editor. It is very much improved in its appearance, and is well filled with sound practical matter.

THE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, published at Boston by W. S. King, is one of the raciest and best Agricultural publications on our exchange list. It numbers among its contributors some of the best writers of the day. Among these are M. P. Wilder, Prof. Mapes, A. W. Dodge, Levi Bartlett, George Jaques, and others. In the last received number we notice the following justly deserved compliment to B. C. Johnson, Esq., Secretary of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society. In speaking of the 'Transactions' for 1851, he says:

"We shall take early occasion to review the book at length. Such a work—so filled with valuable information,—so excellently arranged,—so elegantly illustrated,—so exquisitely executed, typographically—Massachusetts may expect to send forth; when her Board of Agriculture is completed by the election of a competent SECRETARY. Such a work the Rhode Island State Society, with her invested fund of nearly \$20,000, will be able to issue, when they are fitted out with a salaried Secretary, whose sole duty it shall be to watch and to encourage R. I. Agriculture. **THE SECRETARY** is the motive power! Had we all a Col. Johnson, we would all have such an annual volume; and such success in all other respects, as the N. Y. Society. Long life to the Colonel! May his hearty laugh be heard fifty years hence, and his shadow never be less in the land!"

THE HEN FEVER.—By the following letter, which was handed us for publication, by the gentleman to whom it was addressed, we should infer that this epidemic is getting 'no better' very fast.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 25, 1853.

Dear Sir:—Your favor came to hand a day or two since, enclosing ten dollars. The chicken fever since you were here has been so high and is at this present time, that there is not a good specimen to be had at any price, and white fowls are entirely out of the market. I sold the last pair of White for \$25, and have orders for some half a dozen more pairs at the same price; but they cannot be had. I wrote to Boston for some and one of the most distinguished fowl breeders there, wrote me he would give almost any price for good specimens, and they were scarcer there than ever. My own stock is reduced down to scarcely enough to breed from.

I saw a pair of Grey Chittagongs belonging to a passenger who came on the cars a few days since. I offered him \$15 for them; he said they cost him \$20 in New York City. I am sorry that I cannot fill your order. Enclosed please find the \$10.

J. VAN DUSEN.

To Munson Beach, St. Louis.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—We have received a file of this valuable periodical from the commencement of volume eight, for which the publishers will accept our thanks. The Scientific American is an eminently practical work, and as such should be in the hands of every mechanic and farmer in the land. Here he can learn what is being accomplished in the world of inventive genius and science, better than any other publication in the country. It is published by Munn & Co., New York city, at \$2 per annum.

THE MUSICAL REVIEW AND CHORAL ADVOCATE.—We have received the first number of this valuable publication, and we think it well worthy of the patronage of all lovers of music. It is printed in quarto form, upon superior paper, each number containing three or four pages of music, consisting of songs, glees, chants, hymns, anthems, &c. Price \$1 per year. Address C. M. CADY, New York.

N. Y. AGRICULTOR.—What is the reason that we have been overlooked, friend Allen? You promised to send us the specimen number, but you never did it, neither have you ever sent us

your paper at all. Do you think we are too far off, or too ugly, or too insignificant? Trot it along, will you?

THE WESTERN PLOW BOY, in his best suit, (which is a very becoming one by the way,) came whistling into our sanctum the other day, holding out to us his good right hand saluting us with 'Please Ex.' To be sure we will: and furthermore we will venture to predict that such a likely intelligent boy as he is will ere long become a man among men. The Western Plow Boy is devoted to Agriculture and the Agriculturist, it is published at Fort Wayne, Ind. by R. D. Turner, and J. P. Jenks, semi-monthly, at \$1 per annum.

FARM FOR SALE.—We would call the attention of persons wishing to purchase a good farm in Illinois to an advertisement of such a one in this issue. We understand that this farm is a very desirable one, and we know it is a good location. The owner of it being desirous of engaging in other business, will give a good bargain to the purchaser.

MARION AND RALLS.—A correspondent at Hannibal writes as follows: 'enclosed is five dollars for account rendered, and payment in advance for volume 5 and 6—this year and the next—of the Valley Farmer. During the approaching summer we hope to see an Agricultural Society in this (Ralls,) and Marion counties, when I hope your valuable efforts in behalf of the agricultural interests of the Mississippi valley, will be properly appreciated by the farmers of Northwestern Missouri.

ENCOURAGING.—It is no uncommon thing for us to receive letters full of encouragement from our friends in the country, but we do not know when we have received one more to the purpose than the following, which came to hand just as our paper was going to press:

COLUMBIA, Mo., Jan. 31, 1853.

Dear Sir:—I determined the other day to say something in favor of the Valley Farmer, a paper which has gained in favor very fast with me for the short acquaintance I have had with it. I saw only six men and all of them consented very cheerfully to take it. I intend to send you a host of names as soon as I can see the people in my neighborhood.

Yours Respectfully,

W. G. SINGLETON.

MISTAKES.—In sending out our bills last month, we sent some bills to persons who had paid—generally to agents who had pocketed the money, and in one or two instances where the credits had been wrongly entered on our books. Some of these persons are as indignant as though we had actually cheated them out of half they are worth—and we say now, to one and all, that we do not want any person who has paid either to us or any body else, to pay again; and wherever an incorrect bill has been sent, we will cheerfully correct it, on being informed of the fact.

THE BRUNSWICK PACKETS.—Having traveled the past season on these beautiful boats, we can speak knowingly of their good accommodations and the gentlemanly and kind treatment of all their officers and servants. During our journeying on the Kate Swinney, in particular, when our dear partner was suffering under very severe and dangerous illness, we received every attention and kindness, and we can with confidence recommend all the boats to the patronage of the traveling community. We know of no more pleasant excursion than a voyage on one of these boats to the pleasant and flourishing towns on the Missouri.

RECEIPTS.—We intended in this number to publish a list of payments for the Farmer, but have been compelled to omit it. It will appear next month.

Cures for the Bite of Snakes.

In some parts of the country, persons who are bitten with snakes are cured with whiskey, by making them intoxicated. We have read of, and been informed of a number of cures by this method of alcoholic application. We have also been informed that tobacco in a moist state applied to the bite is also an effectual cure. Recent English papers gives an account of a young man who was bitten a short time ago in the Zoological Gardens of London, by a cobra snake, and from the effects of which he died in a short time. A correspondent has written to the 'London Expositor' on the subject and cites a great number of cases in which a volatile caustic alkali named *Eue de Luce* was applied inside and out with complete success. The receipt for making this is not given in the 'Expositor,' but we have found it in another place, and as the cases cited were persons bitten by the hooded snake, the most venomous in the world, and as the said liquid

is now used in the East Indies with perfect success, the receipt for making it is somewhat valuable.

'Take 4 ounces of the rectified spirit of wine, and dissolve in 10 or 12 grains of white soap; filter this solution and dissolve it in a drachm of rectified oil of amber and filter again. Mix as much of this solution with a strong solution of the carbonate of ammonia in a glass bottle, which, when sufficiently shook, will produce a beautiful milky liquid. If any cream is formed on the surface, more of the spirit of wine must be added.'

This is applied to the bite, and about forty drops given as a drink at the same time, this is done as soon as possible and repeated in about ten minutes, when no more will be required for half an hour, and after that the cure is expected to be complete.

POPULATION OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY.—We last week gave the leading facts in regard to the population of Lafayette county. To-day, we give the classification, and shall begin with the towns, viz: Lexington, (population,) 2,882; Wellington 241; Dover 281; Waverly 277. Whole population, 14,511.

The number of persons taught to read and write, 5,857. Deaf and dumb, 5—one in Lexington township, and the remaining four in Washington. Blind, 2—one in Lexington, the other others in Sni-a-Bar township. No paupers reported.—[Lex. Express.

A USEFUL DISCOVERY IN SUGAR-MAKING.—An improvement has been made in the management of sugar plantations, in the discovery that bagasse, the sugar cane after it is crushed can be used for fuel. The transportation of the waste to the swamps, river and bayou, has been a heavy tax to the planters, occupying no inconsiderable time and labor. The steam to drive the sugar engine is now generated by burning bagasse. This discovery was made years ago, however by a northerner, for the definition of the word bagasse, according to Webster, is 'sugar cane crushed, used for fuel.'

The Massachusetts Ploughman gives the measurement of four apple trees set five years ago, when three years from the bud. The soil was of quite moderate fertility. There present circumference, one foot from the ground, is fifteen inches each. This rapid growth is owing to the careful transplanting mulching with strawy manure and peat, washing the stems with potash lye and keeping the ground in good tilling.

There are six acres of barrelled pork, three tiers high, at Louisville, and about six acres of live hogs in pens. That is, we suppose, about twenty-four acres of pork, in the whole.

Mysterious Conduct of a Dog.

The editor of the *Green Mountain Freeman*, published at Montpelier, Vt., gives the following item of personal experience:

To the many remarkable anecdotes related of the dog, we have one to add from our own personal experience. When just starting in our profession, we slept for a short time alone in our office, much disliking to do so, because we were occasionally subject to severe fits of the incubus, or night mare, from which we used to depend on others to arouse us. One day, our door was beset by a small, red, stranger dog, that seemed singularly intent on entering. We drove him away twice; but he as often returned and manifested the same earnest desire to come in. Being somewhat surprised at this, and knowing that no one who could be his master had been there that day, we at length opened the door, and by words and gestures invited him to come in. Joyfully availing himself of the liberty, he entered; and, without seeming to look round for any one, quietly lay down under the table, where he remained until bed-time; when we tried to make him go out. But he absolutely refused, and being struck with the singularity of the animal's conduct throughout we concluded to let him remain for the night, and after procuring some food for him, retired to our bed, which was in a small adjoining room, the entrance to which from the office, we always for the sake of better air, left open.

Some time during that night, we were visited by a frightful fit of the nightmare, from which though perfectly conscious, we probably should have never come out without assistance. At our first groan the dog bounded to our bedside, and commenced barking. Finding this did no good, he mounted the bed, and barked in our face. Failing in this, also he stripped down the bed clothes, and fell to pawing our chest, most furiously, till he tore the skin, which instantly broke the horrid spell; and we arose with a feeling of gratitude for the interposition, as we could never help viewing it, more intense than any we remember to have ever experienced. We would have gladly always kept the dog, but the next morning, when we opened the door, he passed out; and, as if his mission was ended, trotted away, never to be seen by us again.

POTATO ROT.—The Cape Girardeau Eagle has the following communication:

"The undersigned takes this method of making known to the farming part of community, and others interested, that he has ascertained a sure preventive of the Potato Rot, which has been successfully tried for three years, while potatoes grown in fields adjoining where it was not used were all destroyed by the rot. It not only pre-

vents the potato from rotting, but improves its quality, causes them to grow much larger in size, and consequently producing more per acre. The first season they yielded five hundred bushels per acre, and most of them of an enormous size. The process is this: Take one peck of fine salt and two pecks of Plaster of Paris, or the same quantity of Nova Scotia Plaster, (which is best, if you can get it,) and mix the salt and plaster thoroughly together, and immediately after hoeing the potatoes the second time, sprinkle a table spoonful of the mixture on the main vines of each hill next to the ground, (a table spoonful to each hill) and be sure to get it on the vine next the ground, as it is ascertained that the rot proceeds from the sting of an insect in the vine which penetrates through the heart of the vine to the potatoe, and the above mixture coming in contact with the vine at the ground kills the effect produce from the sting so that it does not affect the potatoe. Any farmer who wishes to obtain a good crop of potatoes would do well to try it."

H. P.

JACKSON, Mo., Jan. 30, 1852.

Fruit Catalogue—Valuable List.

The second session of American Pomological Society was held in Philadelphia on the 13th and 14th of September 1852. It was well attended by distinguished Pomologists from various sections of the Union, and we give below the last revised list of varieties recommended by this Society. It is a valuable one to the farmer and fruit grower, and should be preserved to refer to when selecting trees for the fruit yard or orchard.

Fruits worthy of General Cultivation.

APPLES—American Summer Pearmain, Baldwin, Bullock's Pippin, Danver's Winter sweet, Early Harvest, Early Strawberry, Fall Pippin, Fameuse, Summer Rose, Swann, Vandervere, White Seek-no-Further, Wine Apple or Hays, Winesap, Gravenstein, Hubbardston Nonsuch, Large Yellow Bough, Lady Apple, Porter, Red Astrachan, Rhode Island Greening, Roxbury Russet; and for particular localities—Canada Red, Esopus (Spitzenburg, Newtown Pippin, Northern Spy, Yellow Belle Fleur.

PEARS—Ananas d'Ete, Andrews, Belle L'etrative, or Fondante d'Automne; Buere d'Asjon, Buere d'Aremburg, Buere Bose; Bloodgood, Buffum, Dearborn's Seeding, Doyenne d'Ete, Flemish Beauty, Fulton, Golden Buere of Bilboa, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Madeleine, Paradise d'Automne, Rostiezer, Seckel, Tyson, Urbaniste, Uvedale's St. Germain, for baking; Vicar of Wakefield, Williams' Bon Cretien, or Bartlett; Winter Nelis; and for particular localities, Grey Doyenne, White Doyenne.

APRICOTS—Breda, Large Early, Moorpark Nectarines—Downton, Early Violet, Buge.

PEACHES—Bergen's Yellow, Cooledge's Favorite, Crawford's Late, Early York, serrated

Early York, large; George IVth, Grosse Mignonne, Old Mixon Free, Morris White; and for particular localities; Heath Cling.

Plums—Blacker Gage, Coe's Golden Drop, Frost Gage, Green Gage; Jefferson, Lawrence's Favorite, Purple Gage, Purple Favorite, Washington; and for particular localities, Imperial Gage.

Cherries—Bella Magnifixe, Black Eagle, Black Tartarian, Downer's Late, Elton, Early Richmond, for cooking; Graffion, or Bigarreau, Knight's Early Black, May Duke.

Grapes—(Under Glass,) Black Hamburg, Black Prince, Black Frontignan, Chasseas de Fontainebleu, Grizzly Frontignan, White Frontignan, White Muscat of Alexandria; Open culture, Catawba, Isabella.

Raspberries—Fastolf, Franconia, Red Antwerp, Yellow Antwerp.

Strawberries—Boston Pine, Hovey's Seedling, Jenny's Seedling, Large Early Scarlet.

Currants—Black Naples, May's Victoria, Red Dutch, White Dutch, White Grape.

Gooseberries—Crown Bob, Early Sulphur, Green Gage, Green Walnut, Red Champagne, Houghton's Seedling, Ironmonger, Laurel, Warrington, Woodward's, White Smith.

New varieties which promise well.

Apples—Autumn Bough, Hawley, Melon, Northern Spy, Mother, Smoke House.

Pears—Brandywine, Brande's St. Germain, Buere Giffard, Chancellor, Doyenne Boussock, Duchess d'Orleans, Duchesse d'Berri, Diller, Jaloise d'Fontenay, Vendee, Kirtland, Limon, Manning's Elizabeth, Nouveau Poiteau, Onondaga, Ott, Pratt, Paradise d'Automne, St. Michael Archange, Steven's Genesee, Striped Madelaine, Van Assene, Doyenne Goweault.

Plums—McLaughlin, Prince's Yellow Gage, St. Martin's Quetche, Rivers' Favorite.

Cherries—Bigarreau Montreuse de Bavay, Early Purple Guigne, Reine Hortense.

Grape—Diana.

Raspberries—Knevett's Giant.

Strawberries—Burr's New Pine.

Substitute for tobacco. It is said that a chemist has invented a substitute for tobacco. It is made of gunns, and will doubtless soon supersede the weed, as it is just as nasty and a good deal cheaper.

To kill lice on poultry. Boil onions several hours, thicken the water with meal, and feed to the poultry.

EXPORTS OF ROCHEPORT.—A friend at Rocheport, Boone county, says the *Missouri Statesman*, furnishes us the following interesting statistics in regard to the exports of that place during the year 1851 and 1852:

Exported in 1851: 670 hhds. tobacco; 80 boxes manufactured do; 189 bales hemp; 396 coils rope; 21,423 bushels wheat; 377 bushels oats; 1,465 bushels corn; 408 bushels rye; 192 casks bacon; 127 kegs lard; 42 barrels lard; 77 tierces lard; 1,125 lbs. feathers; 176 bushels flaxseed; 719 hides; 17 barrels butter; 19 kegs butter; 1,745 bushels dried apples; 457 barrels green apples; 117 bushels dried peaches.

Exported in 1852: 515 hhds. tobacco; 224 boxes manufactured tobacco; 112 bales hemp; 957 coils rope; 12,032 bushels wheat; 205 casks bacon; 187 kegs lard; 169 barrels lard; 19 tierces lard; 1,365 lbs. feathers; 110 bushels flaxseed; 688 hides; 9 barrels butter; 36 kegs butter; 28 jars butter; 2,145 bushels dried apples; 302 barrels green apples; 75 bushels dried peaches; 2,200 lbs. tallow; 4,298 gallons stone ware; 725 lbs. wool; 4,234 pieces bulk pork.

ST LOUIS LIVE STOCK MARKET.

BEEF CATTLE—The receipts of Cattle in the yards has been light during the week past. The week closes with a very light stock on hand. Prices remain without change. Prime No. 1 sell readily at \$5 50, second \$5. The present high prices of Beef and Pork in California, and the increasing demand there, will have a tendency to cause dealers to transport, hazardously, large quantities of Live Stock to said market the coming spring, thus draining the country of the best Cattle, will without doubt cause an unusual scarcity, the effect of which is being already felt in this market, as speculators in the western counties and in Iowa have already commenced gathering Cattle for the opening spring trade. Shippers have sent forward but few cattle the past week.

Hogs have been coming in pretty freely for some days yet the market is not overstocked. Sales for large sized Hogs are active; farmers are yet disposed to hold on for higher prices, which during the week have ruled high, ranging, from \$5 25 to \$6 30 per hundred for the largest. Slaughtered hogs have come in with a rush from the opposite side of the river for several days, which has caused a diminution in rates. Yesterday and to-days sales are somewhat dull at \$5 25 a \$5 50 per hundred.

SHEEP are without doubt very scarce throughout this region of the country. Speculators find but few; city butchers are troubled to procure enough of good quality for stall use. One drove containing 160 head were sold on the opposite side of the river yesterday at \$2 75 all round. Usual rates, when selected, from to \$2 50 \$3 20.

CALVES—Very few in market to-day. Demand is active for butcher's use.

FAMILY COWS—None in market. Demand not active.—*Intelligencer*, Jan. 29, 1853.

THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Conducted by

Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

Domestic Happiness.

We saw in an exchange a piece entitled, 'The thoughts and doings of a Housekeeper,' and we should have copied it for the benefit of our readers, if it had not been entirely void of any motive above the mere satisfying of the natural appetites. The writer says she loves 'independence'; she *can get up*, and knows how to get breakfast for her household. All this is good, but she ought to feel more thankful than independent, and remember that there are those who know how to prepare a good breakfast as well as herself, and to whom it would be a great privilege to oversee or cook a breakfast for their dear families, but to whom God in his wise and good providence has denied this great blessing, by laying his afflictive hand upon them, and confining them to their solitary chambers for days and months; and must such a family be miserable, cross and unkind to each other because their breakfast, being committed to the care of indifferent help, was not so nice as though prepared by the hand of an affectionate wife and mother?

The writer of the piece alluded to says if their coffee had not been so clear, or their biscuit so nicely browned, the children might have been cross to each other, and father and sons might have gone to the shop, have spoiled jobs and made every body miserable around them: all because breakfast was not prepared to suit them—how *wicked* and foolish. Such a mother had better spend more time in future in caring for the hearts, than for the appetites of her family; in preparing for the time when her head and hands will be laid low, when the clouds of the valley will lay heavily upon her breast. For we are mortal, and it becomes us to *think* of these things. We ought to teach our families to be thankful for even having their lawful appetites gratified; and calm and quiet when circumstances and providence prevents it. They ought to be taught to eat whatever is set before them, asking no questions for conscience sake. That invalid mother may prepare more abundant and richer food for the

hearts of her family in one month than that independent mother ever did, in all her life for the appetites of her household—for 'the life is more than meat.'

We do not believe it is right to feel so independent, or to inculcate such principles into the minds of our children, and we do not think it is right for any husband to be cross or impatient if his breakfast is not always cooked to perfection. Neither do we think any son ought to be in bed till breakfast is ready, and if the biscuits are not cooked to suit him to be cross and petulant.

We believe that order in domestic arrangements saves much time, and gives a degree of domestic tranquility; and to have our breakfast in good season, well done, and cooked in the nicest possible manner is calculated to make all pleasant, but to make a god of our appetites, and to be disappointed and vexed, and cross, and to treat friends and those we love in a harsh manner, and to speak 'crusy to neighbors,' all because the coffee was not cleared, or the meat not done to perfection, is too heathenish to be practised in our christian country. Order and good cooking are very desirable, and no one can prize them more than ourself, but there are things above them, and to rest the tranquility of our minds upon them will be resting on a sandy foundation, and we may be bitterly disappointed for 'it is not the whole of life to live.' We do not think any husband is worthy to be loved, if, when by some accident his coffee is not cleared to suit him, he should destroy the happiness of his family by impatience to his innocent children, or crossness to her he ought to love as his own life. We do not think it is right to uphold such a standard of happiness as depends upon a cup of clear coffee, good biscuit or well browned meat. We do not think it is worthy of any one who writes to justify any husband, father, or son, or any member of the family in the indulgence of a morose and wicked temper because the reverse of his wishes sometimes happens. Our comfort and peace of mind ought not to depend upon the pampering of our appetites.

How often does God in his all-wise providence interfere with the domestic arrangements of families well known for their good

management and order! How often has a darling child been laid on a bed of languishing, and the father and children been deprived of their perfect cook—the wife and mother—who can not be induced to leave the bedside of that beloved little one till signs of returning health relieve her anxiety; and then worn out by watching, anxiety, and fatigue, she is herself laid upon a bed of sickness and suffering. If such a family's happiness consists in the gratifying of their appetites, and having every thing to their minds, then they are doomed to many disappointments, and that pleasantness and cheerfulness that depends upon circumstances is not worth having, for it can not bear the interference of God's various providences. Our happiness must depend upon something deeper than outward circumstances, and

If happiness have not her home
And centre in the heart,
We may be wise or rich or heart,
But never can be blest.

Flowers.

The season is fast approaching when it will be time to make gardens, and we hope our lady readers and even the children will not forget to cultivate the flowers. Aside from having a place for them near the house, around the doors and windows, plant them in the vegetable garden; wherever you can put in a flower seed, and when you gather vegetables these lovely mementoes will spring up to greet you like friends, and welcome you to all the bounties and luxuries of the garden.

The wife, as she returns laden with the increase of the garden, can pluck a few flowers expressive of that undying love and care for him who chose her in her bud of youth, worth, and beauty, to bloom a rare flower by his side for life, for him to love and care for. As she drops them into his lap he will soon understand the sentiment; and these lovely innocent flowers will instantly recall the time when he chose her for the very sentiments which these sweet flowers express, when she was to him the lowliest flower that his eyes ever beheld, and now still more lovely in her full bloom of goodness and affection. Flowers can speak. The language of a simple flower may help us to keep alive the flame of conjugal love in the heart. They are full of meaning, and we can

convey our sentiments to those we love in these delicate and silent interpreters. Then let us cultivate them and learn their language. They will benefit us in many ways. They tend to make us more patient and gentle, besides, the cultivation of them is healthful to any age from the little child up to the mother. If we can not hoe potatoes and plow the corn, we can attend to the wants of the flowers, and nurse them, and they will 'pay us our wages.'

Position of Women.

We copy the following sketch of real life from the excellent address of HENRY F. FRENCH, of Exeter, N. H., before the York county Agricultural Society, at Saco, Me. We fear the unfavorable picture which he has so vividly presented, has too many living realities up and down the country, among the respectable class of our countrymen, although we hope none to the extent described.

Look, for a moment, at the condition of a majority of the wives of respectable farmers, aye, and of men of all other classes in your own country. What are the duties, which by general consent, devolve upon them?

What do you, sir, and you, expect of the lady who presides over your household? Did you ever consider for a moment, how many and various and constant are her trials?

You are, perhaps an amateur farmer; you have, like a true and thriving Yankee built a large and elegant house—not so much because you need it, as because your neighbors live in fine houses. And, besides, you are a growing man in the world, and have been Representative to the Legislature, and are liable to go to Congress, or be President of the United States. There is no knowing what may befall you, and it is well to keep up appearances in the world, and be ready for any honors that may be thrust upon you.

You have a large family of children, and they are all to be educated, and of course have no time to work. Your boys must be fitted for college, and your girls must be taught music, and French, and drawing, besides the common branches of learning. Your wife is expected to see that your elegant house and furniture are kept in order—that the children are kept neat and orderly, at all times. You have a fancy for Devon and Ayrshire and Short-horn cows, and perhaps exhibit them at the Annual Fair, and your wife must take interest enough in your affairs to look well to the dairy. You have a great propensity to clear up swamps, and build stone walls, and improve your farm, and your kitchen is filled with hired men, and nobody but your wife knows what to get for breakfast, dinner or supper, for them or the family.

Then you are a generous, hospitable sort of a fellow, and often invite your friends from

other towns, whom you happen to meet, home to dine, and your wife is relied on, to do the thing up handsomely, for the credit of the establishment; and, although the three youngest children have just had the whooping cough, and have kept her awake half the nights of the last month, the amiable lady is expected to appear at the table dressed like the wife of a gentleman, as bland as a moonbeam, and play the agreeable to her guests, with the same maternally grace, as if she had passed the whole morning over her books and music.

You expect to see your breakfast upon the table punctually at the hour, and the children washed and neatly dressed in their places, at the table. You expect to see the table handsomely laid, and the food properly cooked and served up. You expect the good lady to be ready and at leisure, at all times morning and evening, to receive calls, of friendship, or ceremony, and especially those of your own friends.

You expect to find your wardrobe always in perfect order, with no button, or loop or string missing. If a child is ill, there is nobody but the mother to watch over it by night or by day, and the depressing, never ceasing solitude, and exhausting offices due from a mother to her infant, can be neglected delegated to no other.

In short, sir, you expect your wife to be at the same time cook and chambermaid, lady and serving girl, nurse and seamstress and governess, laundress and dairymaid.

At length, you see, with a sad heart, that her eye is losing its lustre—that her form is becoming daily more frail—that the elasticity of her spirits is gone, and at last the thought, the sickening thought, is forced upon you, that she, whose youthful image, radiant with health and happiness, has never passed from your heart—she, who alone has remained to you true and constant, through sickness and health in trials and prosperity—she, the mother of your children, who has so long been about you and her pleasant household, like a good angel, doing all kind offices for you and your loved ones—she who is more to you than all the world beside—*may die*.

And now, perhaps, an effort is made to relieve her, and changes are effected in the household arrangements; and housekeepers, and servants are procured; the daughters are called on to aid in the domestic affairs, and the grand schemes of improvement are suspended, and no company is invited. But it is all in vain. The hectic flush is on her cheek, and sorrow and fearful forebodings sadden every heart.

For a time, almost like a pure spirit from the realms of bliss, she glides about from room to room, still watchful for the comfort of others, and forgetful of self.

But I will not attempt to fill up the picture,

and trace the sure decay of strength and beauty and life by slow consumption. At length *'there is rest in Heaven.'*

Have I exaggerated the trials of a New-England wife? I wish it were true that no one of us could call to mind an original, from which my picture might have been drawn! I wish it were true that no one of us were conscious of past thoughtlessness, or unreasonable exactions, by which an undue portion of life's burdens have been cast upon the sex least able to bear them.

Benevolence and Gratitude.

A TRUE STORY.

It was a raw bleak night; the rain was falling fast, while the wind blew in violent gusts. A Portsmouth night coach stopped at the principle inn of the town to change horses. The cold and wearied travellers alighted for a few minutes to enjoy the comfort of a blazing fire as well as to take refreshments.

'Will you give a poor fellow a night's shelter in your hay-loft?' asked a weather-beaten sailor addressing one of the ostlers who was fastening the harness.

'No, not to such as you,' answered the man; 'you had better make the best of your way off, or you will get more than you bargained for, if you prowl about here any longer.'

'Perhaps, young man,' replied the tar, 'you may one day be sent adrift upon the world without a penny to keep your head above the water; and as to honesty, I know better than to take what is not my own, if I had not a shoe to my foot.'

'I would'nt trust you farther than I can see you,' said the ostler; 'and if you don't be off I'll make you.'

Poor Jack was turning away, hungry and foot-sore, when he was tapped on the shoulder by a lad who acted as stable-boy.

'If you were to go down the road to that first little shop,' he said, 'Widow Smith would I dare say, let you sleep in her wood-house. She is a good old creature, and is always ready to help any one in distress.'

'Thank you,' said the sailor.

These few words caused a revulsion of feeling in the breast of the forlorn stranger; they told him that there still were hearts in which kindness flowed.

John Willis, on coming ashore, had been robbed of his little all, a thing of no uncommon occurrence, and he was now compelled to beg his way to London. He deeply felt the rebuffs he frequently met with. The prevalence of imposition frequently renders it hard for those who are really in need to get help, for their truthfulness is often questioned.

Jack followed the directions given him, he

he found the shop closed. He felt that it was an unreasonable hour—still the favorable account that he had received of its owner encouraged him to tap at the door. His summons was answered by the worthy dame, who, having listened compassionately to his tale of suffering, bade him enter and share her frugal meal. The tar entertained his benevolent hostess with a recital of some of the shipwrecks he had witnessed, and the narrow escapes he had himself had. And she piously directed his mind to the good Providence which had protected him and preserved him to the present hour, and the Savior who had died to redeem him. The repast over, the widow placed some clean dry straw in one corner of a shed attached to her dwelling, and with a very thankful heart the wearied traveler stretched himself upon it, and slept as soundly as if on a bed of down.

Before continuing his journey in the morning, Jack looked in to thank the good woman for the shelter she had given him; he found, however, a warm meal awaiting him. Having partaken of it and accepted a few pence to help him on his way, he departed with a hearty benediction from his hostess.

Ten years passed, and the little incident here recorded had long escaped the memory of all save one, of the parties concerned. Ten years had wrought many changes in the town and most of the inhabitants; but they had glided gently over the head of Widow Smith. The only alteration perceptible in her was that her hair had become more silvery, and her form was now slightly bent. She still continued her labors of love; and though her means were very limited, she was looked upon as the friend and neighbor of all who were sick, or in want.

One morning a large official looking letter was put into Mrs. Smith's hand by the postman. Its purport was to beg her attendance in London on the following day, when the writer said she would receive gratifying intelligence, which it was wished to communicate to herself personally. Much consultation and gossiping ensued. One of her neighbors thought it a hoax, to play the old lady a trick; another said it would be highly imprudent for a woman of her years to take such a journey, especially to trust herself alone in such a wicked place as London; while a third was quite sure that the writer had some evil design. It did appear a formidable undertaking to one who had never strayed ten miles from her native place. The widow's credulity had often been imposed upon, yet she would believe anything but that any one would intentionally deceive or wrong her. She had great confidence, too, in the protecting providence of God, whom she served in humble dependence on His grace in Christ, and therefore

felt no fear in complying with the request in the letter. Wherefore, notwithstanding the ridicule of some, and the remonstrance of others, the good dame started by the first coach which passed through on the morrow, and reached London in time to meet the appointment.

The address given her was at an inn, and on arriving there she was immediately ushered into a private apartment, where two respectable looking men were waiting to receive her. The widow's surprise was increased when one of them accosted her with the familiar phrase—

'How do you do, mother? Don't you remember me, my worthy?' added he, in answer to her half frightened, inquiring glance. 'I am Jack Willis, the sailor you housed and fed ten years ago, when he had neither money nor friends. I am now captain of a merchantman; and this gentleman,' turning to his companion, 'will, in my name, do the needful to settle an annuity of fifty pounds upon you as a proof of my gratitude for your kindness, and especially for your advice, which I hope, by God's mercy, led me to think of and to trust in him for salvation.'

The widow, unable to give utterance to the emotions of her swelling heart, burst into a flood of tears.

Widow Smith returned to her cottage home, thankful to God for his blessing on her humble efforts to benefit an humble creature in body and soul, and for his bountiful care for her, and delighted that she now had increased means of usefulness; and never after did she listen to a tale of suffering without thinking of poor Jack Willis.

Plants in Bedrooms.

Some persons are so fond of odoriferous plants and flower, as to have them in their bed-chamber. This is a very dangerous practice at night, many of them being so powerful to overcome the senses entirely. Even plants not in flower, and without smell, injure the air during the night, and in absence of the sun, by impregnating it with nitrogen and carbonic acid gas. A melancholy proof of this recorded by Dr. Curry, occurred at Leigh-ton Buzzard, in Bedfordshire. Mr. Sheerbrook having frequently had his pinery robbed the gardener determined to sit up and watch. He accordingly posted himself, with a loaded fowling piece, in the greenhouse where it is supposed he fell asleep, and in the morning was found dead upon the ground, with all the appearance of suffocation, evidently occasioned by the discharge of mephitic gas from the plants during the night. Instances of men having slept in the woods during the night, and being found dead in the morning are common.

HOG STATISTICS—The Prospect.

From all the information we have been able to gather, says the Louisville Courier of 28th, there will be an excess in the number of hogs packed throughout the West this season over last, of fully 300,000 hogs. In the average weight of the hog packed, it is estimated that there will be a falling off of five per cent. The deficiency of lard is estimated at ten per cent.

The Cincinnati Price Current estimates the number of hogs packed there, from all sources, at 361,871—a gain of nearly 10,000 over the previous year. The excess in this city is 10,000, in Indiana 116,000, and Ohio 40,000. From other points, full returns have not been received.

During the past week, prices of provisions have been dull, and at Cincinnati mess Pork had declined fully \$1 25 per bbl, but by our despatches last night, it appears that the market had assumed a decided and firmer tone.—Holders here are firm at an advance on Cincinnati prices, with, however, no sales. It is estimated that upward of 100,000 barrels of Pork have been put up by our packers this season.

PRESERVING PROPERTIES OF COFFEE.—M. E.

Robin speaks highly of the preserving properties of coffee. For example, meat dipped in coffee, rather strong, which had been allowed to cool, and then left in the air for three days, has been preserved without any change worth mentioning. Since last November, 1851, it has assumed the appearance of cooked meat, and has never had any bad odor; the liquor is discolored, but preserves its aroma, which is very agreeable. Another piece of the same meat placed in a similar quantity of coffee, in the same manner, had a bad odor in ten days, and putrified at the end of three weeks. The question of its certainty for preserving is one of interest to domestic economy.—*Scientific American*.

STOCK FOR CALIFORNIA.—There are a number of our citizens buying up quantities of stock, to drive to California this spring, such as cattle and sheep; we have heard of but one lot contracted for, of which the price was public, which was 500 cows, to be delivered in the spring at \$12 per head. We believe that a large number might be sold at something more. The price of work cattle has not been settled, but will likely be from \$45 to \$60, from common to choice, we are not advised of the selling price of sheep.—[Independence Messenger of the 15th.

STOCK FOR CALIFORNIA.—There will be a very large amount of stock driven from this and the adjacent counties to California, the coming Spring. Several persons in this county have been buying cows and sheep for that market. The competition for these has caused prices to advance. Cows are selling freely at from \$15 to \$20, sheep, from \$1 25 to \$1 50, and some high as \$2 per head according to quality. Good oxen are worth \$70 per yoke, mules from \$75 to \$100. There is but lit-

tle demand at present for horses and mules, as there are few persons in this vicinity intending to cross the plains this season. This description of stock is scarce, however, and prices well maintained. The emigration from this section of the State will be almost entirely limited to the stock drivers.—[Glasgow Banner, 20th.

Every Farmer a Mechanic.

We extract the following from an article credited to the *Farmer and Artisan*:

Every farmer should be to some extent a mechanic. He should know how to make the wooden tools that he has to use, such as yokes, bows, handles, rakes, &c., &c. The boys too should be instructed in this art. Habits of industry are among the richest legacies that a man can leave his children; and on the possession of those habits, to a great degree, does the success and happiness of every individual depend.

Mr. Brown, the thrifty farmer of whom I have before spoken, acted upon the principle; he had three children, two boys and a girl. He sent them to school during the time that the school was kept in his district, but if you chanced to call at his house on a winter evening you would be very sure to find himself and two boys engaged in whittling out and finishing up some axe handles, or something of the kind, that had been blocked out during the day, while the girl read to them from a news paper, his house being well supplied with this indispensable commodity. Jacob Jones used to go over to Mr. Brown's frequently to hear the reading, and it was whispered about the neighborhood that a conversation with Maria, on a particular subject would have been even more interesting, but all his arts and efforts were useless in eliciting it. This however was mere chit chat and not to be talked about in an agricultural paper.

What I was about to say was, that one even in as they were employed as usual, and Maria had finished reading the address before the agricultural society, Jacob said to Henry Brown, 'you can't make so neat an axe handle as I have got.' After a pause of a moment, Henry looked up and asked, 'who made it for you.' 'It is one that father bought in the agricultural ware house, in Portland,' replied Jacob. Henry in order to tease him, not once suspecting the fact, said, 'as likely as not it is one I made, for we sent two dozen there last week to be sold. 'No,' said Jacob, 'it was made in Massachusetts, of the very best of wood.' Henry as he placed his mark on a handle he had just finished, said, 'there if it has a cross on the end like that, it is one that I made, for I mark all mine with this little chisel.' When Jacob went home he at once examined his axe handle, and lo, and behold, it had upon it the identical cross that Henry showed him.